

# THE MONTHLY ANTHOLOGY.

FOR

MARCH, 1808.

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*For the Anthology.*

VIEW OF MODERN FRANCE.

No. II.

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*Paris, December 17, 1805.*

MY DEAR FRIEND,

IN a former letter I gave you some details as to the territorial extent and population of France. I shall now proceed to some reflections and facts in relation to the wealth and power of this nation. I need not say any thing to convince you, that the wealth and force of a great nation depends vastly more on the produce of its soil, and the consumption of that and of the produce of its own industry, than on its foreign commerce, though foreign commerce adds an almost incalculable value to the products of labour. Some remarks which I have seen on the statistical history of Great Britain, and which I dare say you have often perused, prove, that even in that country whose external commerce is so extensive, the profits, resulting to the nation from foreign trade, are very small compared to the produce of the soil, and the profits made by internal industry in fabricating articles, which are consumed among themselves. Indeed it is obvious, that if a *great and populous* nation possessed within itself a sufficient variety of soil and climate, if it afforded by its muni-

cipal regulations suitable encouragement to the developement of its industry, it might become incalculably rich and powerful without exchanging a single article of its produce, against those of any other nation, though this remark is applicable only to old nations whose capital is great, and whose industry has been devoted to manufactures. Perhaps there never existed a country, to which these remarks were more applicable, than to France. Except Normandy, (which I propose to visit in the Spring,) I have seen almost every part of this vast empire, and my own observation has explained a phenomenon, which I could never before understand, and that is, that France should have been capable of such astonishing efforts, though her commerce was annihilated, and that she should come out of such a revolution and of such destructive wars, with all the vigour of youth and the appearance of abundance. Such, however, is the fact, and notwithstanding all which the English writers or parliamentary haranguers may say on the subject, she is now infinitely stronger and *richer* than Great Britain.

You will understand me as speaking of the *nation only* and not of in-



dividuals. The truth is, that France, having soon exterminated her invaders, had a state of internal tranquillity, and so vast are her internal resources, so prodigious the efforts of her industry, that she scarcely feels the loss of external commerce. I now proceed to give you the details of the productions of her soil, and of her industry.

It is remarked, that neither the revolution nor the wars, in which France has been engaged during the last ten years, have had any sensible effect on the population or produce of this country, and I think this is well accounted for by their writers, "from the abolition of the feudal rights, the duties and burdensome taxes, to which the tenants were subject, not only to the state but to the feudal Seigneur; and the facility, with which the *cultivators* have been enabled to procure titles to land, a thing before the revolution impossible." And as to population, they think that has augmented by the encouragement given to early marriages, "a married man being exempted from the military conscriptions." These reasonings appear to be well founded, and the facts support the theory.

The Agricultural division of France has been borrowed from the remarks of Arthur Young, whose work is highly commended here. He divides it as follows, and I have added to each division the computed quantity of each.

- 1st. 28,218,908 acres of rich and fat land.
- 2d. 28,355,004 acres of heath, or *lands like the plains of Danvers.*
- 3d. 13,574,904 acres of *Chalky land.*
- 4th. 3,840,070 acres of gravelly land.
- 5th. 19,016,136 acres of stony, or rocky land.

6th. 26,239,394 acres of mountainous land.

7th. 8,303,142 acres of sandy land.  
Total of acres for all France, 122,517,567.

The division of the employment of these lands is as follows:

- 1st. Lands laboured, that is, tilled annually, 66,488,774 acres.
- 2d. Lands in vineyards, 4,868,730 acres.
- 3d. Wood, 16,269,432 acres.
- 4th. Rich pasturage, 6,604,066 acres.
- 5th. Artificial meadows, 7,490,606 acres.
- 6th. Heaths, uncultivated lands, rivers, ponds, &c. 20,845,850 acres.

Arthur Young, after inquiring into the value of the productions of each species of land in 1787, estimated as a mean value of the annual produce of *an acre* of land in France, *taking into calculation all the lands of France*, 44 livres as the annual produce of one acre or 5,390,000,000 francs as the gross annual value of all the productions of France.

Mons. Lavoisier estimated the gross annual value of the productions of France, (not comprising the fisheries, mines, butter, cheese, fruit, green vegetables consumed, or oil,) at 2,750,000,000 livres.

his difference is so considerable, that I think you would be better pleased to see the basis of their respective calculations.

Arthur Young computes the quantity of land, employed in raising grain of different species, at 20,000,000 acres; and according to his remarks, he estimates their produce at 75,000,000 setiers; the setier is about 12 bushels.

A French writer estimates the whole produce of the lands of France in grain at 17,300,000,000 pounds. But it must be under-



stood that rye, wheat and barley are all included in the above estimate.

Mr. Lavoisier computed from the *consumption* of grain, and upon 24,000,000 inhabitants, he computed the consumption of grain at 14,000,000,000 of pounds weight. Adding to this then the same proportion for the territories added to France, and we have 19,000,000,000 pounds for the present consumption of France. This is a pretty fair estimate because France in any period of ten years, exports more grain than she imports, so that the produce is rather above than below this estimate.

Let me observe here that the fertility of the lands in France appears to be extremely great. There are some rich lands which yield 12 setiers to the acre, or 144 bushels, but they are rare. The *ordinary good lands* of Picardy and the vicinity of Paris yield 8 setiers or 96 bushels; and the less good lands yield 10 quintals or 4 setiers per acre. But it must be recollected that I speak of the French bushel, which weighs only 20 *pounds*, whereas I think a bushel of wheat with us weighs 60, if I recollect correctly. Still the produce in France is very great.

The average result of the calculations of five different writers upon the quantity of grain, annually produced in France prior to the revolution gives 61,519,672 setiers of 12 bushelseach, weighing 20lbs.; which would give for the pounds weight of grain, 14,764,721,280 pounds, or a result very nearly similar to that of Mons. Lavoisier.

Adding to this sum the increase arising from the extended territory of France, and we have 20,000,000,000 lbs. as the result of the annual produce of grain in France.

This immense produce may be es-

timated at the present average price of about 3 sous the pound, and forms the aggregate of 3,000,000,000, or 125,000,000*l.* sterling.

But as a considerable part of this grain is rye and barley, it is thought it may be reduced to about 2 sous per pound, or to a sum one third less.

They computed the quantity of oats raised in France at 400,000,000 French bushels before the revolution and at present at 500,000,000, which they estimate at 10 sous the bushel, equal to about 30 sous for our bushel, giving for the value of the oats raised in France, 250,000,000 francs. In the departments of the two Netherlands lately acquired by France, and in Normandy and Brittany, great quantities of hemp and linen flax are raised.

They estimate the quantity of flax and hemp at 6,300,000 pounds, which, at 6 sous per pound, gives 1,890,000 francs.

The produce of their artificial meadows and pasturage lands, which are wholly employed in raising grass and vegetables, is to be added to the above estimates. It is impossible to arrive at a precise estimate of this species of crop, because a considerable part of it is consumed green by their cattle, but taking the whole quantity of this species of land, and estimating it at 20 quintals per acre, which I believe is as much as the fact will warrant, and estimating this produce at 2 francs the quintal, as I see is the nett value of it in France, we have the following result: 14,094,672 acres, producing equal to one ton of hay each, which ton is worth 40 francs nett, amounting to 563,786,880 francs.

The next, and a very important source of produce, is their forests; and though Arthur Young estimates them at 16,000,000 acres as I have



shewn above, yet by the late estimates they are found to amount to 11,780,000 only, of which 4,780,000 belong to the government, 4,000,000 to corporations of various sorts, and 3,000,000 to individuals.

They cut one twentieth part of the wood every year, which gives 589,300 acres of woodlands cut down annually, and which is supposed to produce 11,786,000 cords, or 20 cords per acre; and 23,700,000 joists for building.

They calculate the annual value of the wood cut in France at 120,000,000 francs. This must be at the moment it is felled, not computing the labour or transportation, because it sells at more than 40 livres the cord in Paris. As France is the only country in the world, which has preserved its wood during such a state of population, I think you would like to know the causes of it. The whole wood of the nation, though belonging to individuals or corporations, is under the publick guardianship. There is a complete system of ad-

ministration confined to the forests. There are 28 preservers, 166 inspectors, 262 sub-inspectors, 465 general guards, and 6,884 particular guards; whole expense 5,000,000 francs. Produce of publick wood sold annually, 39,835,000 francs.

The proprietors of woods are divided into five classes, of which four are under the absolute controul of the government, and can only cut in the *manner*, which the officers of the government shall direct. The fifth class, who are individual proprietors, cannot *clear* their land without the permission of the Minister of the Interior, and who takes into consideration the situation and wants of that part of the country, in which the wood is situated. In all cases, ten trees are to be left in each acre for timber, which cannot be cut till they are 120 years old.

Regulations of this sort would be thought arbitrary in our *land of liberty*, but they are wise, and conduce to national grandeur and strength.

Yours, &c. ———

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*For the Anthology.*

## HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE INSTITUTION AND PROGRESS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

[Continued from page 82.]

EVEN within a few years after its institution, the Society had acquired a considerable library, and a good collection of natural curiosities. A Mr. Colwal was, in these things, one of its first and most munificent benefactors. Mr. Hooke, the first curator of the Society, had the care of the books and curiosities; and they were arranged according to a classification of all the species in nature, contrived by the famous Dr. Wilkins. Mr. Henry Howard be-

stowed on the Society the whole Arundelian library, consisting of some thousands of printed books, with several hundreds of choice manuscripts. From the time, also, of the great fire, after which the buildings of Gresham college were again occupied as an exchange, Mr. Howard afforded the Society a place of temporary accommodation in Arundel house.

Among the communications to this Society, within the first seven



years after its incorporation by charter, were many curious theoretical discourses. Such were an hypothesis of the motions of the moon, and of the sea ; a theory of fire and flame ; an hypothesis of the form and spring of the air ; a discourse of the possible height of the air, and its rarefaction upward ; a discourse about improving wood for dyeing, and for fixing colours ; discourses upon several mercurial experiments ; a discourse of annealing and tempering steel ; discourses about cyder and coffee ; a discourse of the possibility of the retardation of the motions of the heavenly bodies, and of their going slower and slower the longer they last ; with a multitude of others, which it were inconvenient and tedious here to enumerate in detail.

As their views were more expressly and directly than those of their present successors in the Royal Society to the improvement of the arts, they quickly formed accurate histories of many of the most useful of these. Among their papers, within the first seven years after the Society's institution, were to be found, an history of English mines and ores, two separate histories of tinneries and tin working, histories of iron making, of lignum fossile, of saffron, of alkermes, of verdigrease, of the bleaching of wax, of colours, of the making of alum, of the preparation of salt from salt water, of enamelling, of engraving, of varnishing, of dyeing, of refining gold, of making potashes, &c. The processes of making bread, of making cloth, of tanning, with the other parts of the manufacture of leather, of paper making, of hat making, of brewing, were accurately related according to the best practice of them at that time, in different memoirs by the first members and cor-

respondents of the Society. Prince Rupert communicated two papers of extraordinary value, explaining the process for the manufacture of gunpowder, and an improvement of that process, by which gunpowder might be made, which should have twenty times the strength of that which was commonly in use. Mr. Henshaw produced to the Society an ingenious history of the discovery and the manufacture of salt-petre. Many papers illustrative of the history of the useful arts were communicated by Sir William Petty, one of the most truly honourable, founders to whom any family among our British nobility can trace the origin of its wealth and nobilitating distinctions.

But none of all those original members did more than Dr. (afterwards Sir) Christopher Wren to advance the purposes of the Institution. He proposed certain curious theories of motions, extending and correcting the doctrine of Des Cartes, which, however they may have been since exploded, were imagined with great ingenuity, and illustrated by a multitude of happy experiments. He contrived to annex to a weathercock an apparatus, which, of itself, registered for every twelve hours the changes of the wind ; and invented also, a thermometer, to register for itself the variations in the temperature to which it should be exposed. He was the inventor of an instrument for measuring the quantity of the rain that falls. He was the first who explained, that from the pendulum might be produced a natural standard of measure for vulgar use. He first exactly measured and delineated the spheres of the humours in the eye ; and thence explained how reflection conduces as much as refraction to vision. He was the first



author of the noble anatomical experiment of injecting liquors into the veins of animals. He made a variety of experiments to ascertain the powers of the magnet ; and many to explain the nature of the powers, by which sailing is performed, and to fix what fabrick of a ship might be most suitable to the uses, for which it is intended. He made many improvements upon telescopes, and a prodigious number of astronomical observations, particularly on the planet Saturn, and on the moon.

He invented a curious and very speedy method of etching. He suggested a number of contrivances for the improvement of water works. He found out certain perpetual lamps and registers of furnaces, by which artificial heat might be so kept up and graduated, as to imitate nature in the hatching of chickens and insects, the vegetation of plants, the production of certain fossils, and the preservation of an equality in the motions of watches, in order to the discovery of the longitude, &c. All these things he accomplished in a diligent pursuit of the objects of the Society : and, as his discoveries were made, he communicated them, but with the greatest diffidence and modesty at its meetings.

And yet, even this variety, activity, and success in its researches, could not satisfy the tyrannical impatience of publick expectation. The cavillers against the society derided its members as idle dreamers, or interested impostors, who excited hopes which they could not gratify, and wasted their own lives and fortunes in pursuits having no rational attainable end. Others conceived prejudices still stronger against these studies ; accusing them as atheistical, and adverse to the study of purely moral and intellectual truth ; because they traced to second causes phe-

nomena, which had been usually referred to the immediate agency of the Divine Power ; and withdrew attention from the logick, ethicks, and theology, which had hitherto reigned in the schools. By others they were abhorred as incapable of alliance with elegance and grace, with the charms of poetry and eloquence, with the refinement of the language, or the improvement of the popular parts of literary composition. To many, that tolerance was extremely odious with which they received all men of ingenious inquiry into their correspondence, without distinction of nation or religion ; and the admirers of the ages of classical antiquity derided, with the proudest contempt, the very idea upon which the institution was founded, that it was possible to extend the empire of human knowledge beyond those limits, within which the ancients had left it confined.

The society, not unmoved by such censures and complaints, yet not diverted by them from the prosecution of its views, advanced, though slowly, yet with steady and vigorous diligence, in its experiments and inquiries. Dr. Spratt's apologetical history contributed to silence many prejudices. The imitation of the design of this Society, by so many similar institutions arising after it in foreign countries, evinced the general conviction of mankind to be in its favour. Its memoirs and transactions were, from time to time, printed ; and, among discoveries and inquiries which could interest none but philosophers, failed not to contain, likewise, others of general utility and importance so striking and palpable, that even the attention and approbation of the vulgar could not be refused.

In pure mathematicks, the successive publications of the Society,



to the end of the seventeenth century, exhibited a variety of inventions exalting the power of that science, and furnishing it with new arms to triumph over difficulties of investigation to which it was before unequal. The discoveries of Newton had been prompted by that spirit of mathematical and physical research, which the institution of the Society excited. Their communication did honour to the meetings of the philosophers, and enriched their volumes. Wallis, Gregory, De Moivre, and Halley, soon communicated a number of valuable problems, theorems, and new demonstrations, important both in the new display of beautiful, and in their susceptibility of application to the improvement of the mathematical arts. In mixed mathematicks the optical discoveries of Newton, Hevelius, and Huygens were, in great part, made first known to the world through the medium of the Royal Society. Leeuwenhoek and the illustrious Dr. Robert Hooke published most of their microscopical discoveries, in the first instance, through the same channel. A multitude of the most important observations in astronomy, the communications chiefly of Flamsteed, Hevelius, Cassini, Halley, Gregory, Bullialdus, Auzout, fill the early volumes of these Transactions. Bernoulli, Huygens, Hooke, and Wallis communicated some highly curious papers in mechanicks and accousticks. Mr. Boyle, M. Homberg, Dr. Papin, Dr. Reselius, and an inferior philosophical society at Oxford, communicated various experiments on the gravities of different fluids, their superficial figures, and their laws of movement. Mr. Thomas Savery, in the year 1699, made known to them an engine of his invention for raising water by steam.

Flamsteed, Borelli, Halley, Mercator, Cassini, Bullialdus, and Greaves, gave, for the improvement of geography and navigation, many observations of the longitudes and latitudes of different places, of the variations of the compass, &c. &c.

In architecture and ship building, their transactions exhibit the valuable papers of Leeuwenhoek "on the differences in timber as it grows in different countries, and is felled in different seasons;" of Mr. Bulteel "on the sheathing of ships with lead;" of Dr. Lister, Dr. T. Robinson, and Dr. Wallis, "on bridges, arches, and chimneys, &c." Wallis and Salvetti communicated some interesting papers on the theory of musick. Dr. Sherard gave a receipt for making china varnishes.

In physiology, meteorology and pneumatics, the researches of this Society in the last thirty years of the seventeenth century were no less diligent and meritorious. The barometer, the hygrometer, the thermometer, were first put to important use in philosophical observation by its members. The general phenomena of the weather in different seasons and latitudes were by them first recorded with philosophical accuracy. Of the winds, rains, snow, hail, lightning, thunder, meteors, exhalations, their papers exhibit an assemblage of facts, to which much has indeed been since added, but which still form a large and important part of our present science of atmospherical phenomena. They collected a prodigious variety of observations to illustrate the physical history of water, as it existed in seas, lakes, springs, mineral and salt-springs, &c.; and to explain the manufacture of salt from sea water or from that of salt springs.

In those early volumes are a great number of papers in mineralogy:



the facts which they contain laid the foundation of this science. The history, in particular, of animal substances, and of vegetables found in a fossil state; of some volcanick eruptions; of marble found in Ireland; of the formation of peat-earth in Scotland; of the strata of pit-coal; of rock crystal, iron and copper ore; of amber; of the electrical capacities of amber, gum lac, and diamonds; was illustrated in a number of curious papers, the produce of much laborious inquiry, and of many observations made with the greatest diligence. Mr. Gill, Sir Robert Moray, Dr. Brown, and others, communicated interesting papers on damp in mines. Dr. Lister gave some mineral maps, and an account of the true way of making steel. A catalogue of electrical bodies was received from Dr. Robert Plot: Mr. D. Colwal favoured the Society with accounts of alum works and green copperas works. The lead mines in Somersetshire, the quicksilver mines in Friuli, the silver and gold mines in Hungary, were made particularly known to the Society by communications from Mr. Glanville, Dr. W. Pope, and Dr. E. Brown. A curious paper from Mr. M. Septalius acquainted them with the existence of mercury in certain plants. The collection of their papers presents, beside these, a prodigious variety of other information relative to subjects in the mineral kingdom.

The power of the magnet; the use of the magnetick needle; the declination of the needle, its variations in different places, with the theory of those variations, engaged much of the Society's attention, and were very ably illustrated by the papers of Dr. Halley, Mr. Hevelius, Mr. Auzout, Mr. Cunningham, and others.

To the improvement of the sci-

ence of botany, and the practice of agriculture, they continued to devote much of their care. Rye, turnips, potatoes, maize, saffron, orange trees, vines, are among the plants whose culture and æconomical uses were successfully explained in the papers read before this Society during the last century. The nature of vegetation, the circulation and descent of the sap in trees, the reunion of bark to trees from which it had been separated, &c. were finely explained by Dr. Beale, Dr. Lister, Mr. Reed, M. Malphigi, Mr. Ray, &c. The use of marle, of sea sand, of salt and of brine for manures, are taught in others of those papers. Mr. King communicated a method of improving the bogs and loughs in Ireland by drainage. Dr. Beale explained the fertilizing powers of frost. The preparation of oak for tanning, of sugar from the maple tree, of vinegar, of pitch, tar, resin, and turpentine, are the subjects of some other ingenious papers of the same period. Dr. Lister investigated with curious pains the botanical history of the mushroom. Hemlock, opium, snake root, aloe americana, the amomum of the Philippine isles, and many other plants adapted to be of use in the materia medica, were examined in their growth and qualities, under the Society's directions. Dr. Lister proved the possibility of fertilizing a sandy soil by the addition of clay. Sir Robert Moray gave a valuable paper on the process of malting. Dr. Beale and Mr. Dale taught how to make bread from turnips and potatoes.

In zoology, the papers of this period are likewise numerous, and illustrative of many of the most interesting species in the animal kingdom. The histories of the silkworm, the whale, the cochineal insect, the



pearl-muscle, the bee, were, on account of the relations of these animals to the useful arts, examined with extraordinary care. Many accounts of monstrous births and figures of animals were from different parts transmitted for the Society's consideration. Waller's poem "on the Summer Islands" appears to have had for its foundation a narrative concerning whales and whale fishing at the Bermudas, which was communicated to the publick in the Transactions of the Royal Society. Mr. Ray, examining into the nature of ants, discovered and made known to the Society, that which has been since named the *formick acid*. Others, with much curious pains, illustrated the history of the spider. Dr. Lister found an acid juice in another insect beside the ant. Mr. Boyle and others examined and explained the anatomical structure of fishes. In regard to the human body, especially, were these philosophers wonderfully industrious in research. The natural accidents to which it is subject, and its anatomical structure, were never before so well illustrated as by the facts which they collected. Concerning the structure, external parts, and common teguments of human bodies; the head; the neck and thorax; the abdomen; the humours and general affections of the body; its bones, joints; their Transactions present an assemblage of facts such as must, in comparison, put to shame the industry of later anatomists.

In chemistry, they investigated the nature and composition of phosphorus, of the Bologna stone, of vegetable and mineral acids, &c. An engine to consume smoke was made known to them by M. Justel. A method of imitating the pottery of China appears also among their papers. Sir Robert Southwell com-

municated an account of the method of dressing buck and doe skins, which was practised by the Caribbees in the West Indies. The phosphorescent qualities of wood, putrid flesh, the surface of the sea, &c. were particularly examined in papers communicated by Mr. Boyle and Dr. Beale.

Nor were their endeavours confined to the improvement merely of physical and mathematical science. Mr. Lodwick gave an essay towards an universal alphabet. Dr. Wallis invented a method of teaching persons deaf and dumb to speak and understand language. Mr. Edward Lloyd communicated some valuable observations in philological science. Another gentleman gave a paper of highly curious observations and conjectures concerning the Chinese characters. The collection of their papers affords likewise some valuable illustrations of difficulties in chronology. Roman, Grecian, Saxon, Runick, Egyptian, and Persian antiquities have also a variety of new lights thrown upon them in these papers. The first account of the discovery of the famous ruins of Palmyra appears here in two communications from Mr. Timothy Landy and Mr. Aaron Goodyear. When the members and correspondents of the Society were engaged in journeys and voyages, they never failed to register for its information at least some of the more extraordinary facts which came under their notice. And a number of its papers are, in consequence of this, narratives of such observations, interesting in the highest degree at once to philosophers and to mere popular curiosity.

Yet about the beginning of the 18th century the members of the Society were themselves dissatisfied with the progress and success of their efforts. They



began to feel that their first ardour of inquiry had become cool. They complained, that "the discouraging neglect of the great, the impetuous contradiction of the ignorant, and the reproaches of the unreasonable, had unhappily thwarted them in their design to perpetuate a succession of useful inventions." Nor was it to have been expected that the fears for religion and liberty in the latter part of the reign of Charles the Second and his successor, the civil and political contentions to which they gave birth, and the direction of so much of the learned ability of the time, to exercise in the field of the popish controversy, should not have proved inauspicious to the advancement of philosophical studies. The reign of William, harassed with wars, with disputes relative to the rights of the reigning sovereign and to the royal succession, with factions in church and state, introduced no new fortunate æra for the advancement of philosophy and the arts. Even in the beginning of the 18th century, and during the course of some years, the same dissensions and wars continued to produce the same effects upon the fortune of science. The wits presumed to throw ridicule upon science and erudition, which they were too idle to cultivate. The reign of Anne was for England perhaps the golden age of wit and elegant literature; and men showed themselves sufficiently disposed to prefer the light and shining, to that which was only solid and unostentatious.

Yet, while Newton, the pride of the Royal Society, distinguished himself among its active members, or presided at its meetings, it could not but continue to be regarded as the grand focus of physico-mathematical discovery and knowledge.

His own communications in opticks, astronomy, and general physicks, were invaluable. His system of the universe was adopted as one which was infallibly true, and which it was for the honour of the nation, by all possible means, to illustrate and maintain. Hence, from the commencement till nearly the middle of the 18th century, the labours of the Society were principally employed in pursuing the analogies of the Newtonian system throughout all that diversity of phænomena by which its certainty was to be tried. Such were almost all the experiments, observations, and theories, of the illustrious, the indefatigable Halley. Desagulier, Facio, Keill, and Mac-lourin, successfully laboured in the same field. Every other branch of those sciences which the Society studied especially to improve, continued also to be more or less advanced by the labours of its members.

It was at length evident that the field which its founders had, with noble ambition, marked out for themselves, was too vast. The Society of Arts arose by perhaps an unconscious derivation from the Royal Society. To the latter was still left the province of the sublimer and abstruser sciences. The latter, with admirable national enthusiasm, undertook the task of applying, and encouraging the application of, scientific truth to the improvement of the common arts.

For a time, about the middle of the 18th century, when the Newtonian system was fully established, and no new path of noble discovery had been opened, the exertions of these philosophers might comparatively languish. The discoveries of Dr. Stephen Hales, concerning the diversities of airs, about that time, however, renewed the truths which had been first explain-



ed by Hooke. Discoveries in natural history and chemistry were continually more and more multiplied. Franklin at length communicated to the Society the grand truth of the identity of lightning with electricity, and a new theory, combining all the electrical phenomena, which had been as yet observed. Priestley, following Hales, Hooke, and Boyle, in experiments upon air, discovered all the varieties of aeriform substance. Cavendish, Kirwan, and others, examined airs in their relations to the calces of metals, &c. Sir Joseph Banks has done high honour to the Society by the advancement which it has, under his auspices, made in botanical discovery, and in the culture of the other branches of natural history.

At the present time, its labours are, in all the branches of physical and mathematical science, most zealously continued. Amid so many rival institutions, the Royal Society of London holds still the first place. Its memoirs, now with great regularity annually published, fully vindicate its claim to the highest estimation of the publick. We have reviewed its history with a conscious pride that we are of the same country and language with a succession of philosophers who have discovered, or collected and arranged, the better part of the physical knowledge peculiar to modern times. He who would aspire to the praise of a philosopher would do well to study the volumes of its Transactions with peculiar care.

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## BIOGRAPHY.

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### SKETCH OF THE LIFE AND CHARACTER OF THE REV. DR. SAMUEL WEST.

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THE design of biography is to celebrate useful talents, to record patriotick labours, and to exhibit characteristick traits of virtue. The distinguished mental powers, the publick spirit, and scientific researches of the late Rev. Samuel West, of New Bedford, fully entitle him to biographical notice, and he may justly claim a place in the records of posthumous fame. Although the theatre on which he acted was retired, the spectators few, and his life spent with little diversity of event; yet his mind presented strong and prominent features: and had he lived in Europe, his reputation and usefulness had fallen little short of that of *Buxtorf*, *Kennicot*,

*Mede*, *Poole*, &c. for his mind was doubtless equal to any exertions of these men, and, with their literary means, no common embarrassments would have presented obstacles retarding his progress to the summits of their theological eminence. Although his learned connections were few, and his life spent among those incapable of comprehending many of his ideas, or profiting from his treasury of biblical information; yet were he to pass off the stage without any biographical notice, it would occasion regret to the religious, the grateful, and the learned, who knew his intrinsick merit and were favoured with his friendship.

Father West was one of the first



men in the New-England congregational churches on account of his scriptural knowledge, skill in the prophecies and a ready recollection of every text, which enabled him upon the shortest notice to collect and pertinently apply all the passages of scripture, connected with his subject, and conducive to the purpose of his argument. The epithet of *Father* above given, probably originated in the conviction of his judicious friends, that his sincere benevolence, his faithful and discreet counsels might be safely relied on, while his literary pre-eminence, his treasures of criticism, wit, and historical information justified the continuance of so respectful an appellation.

He was born in Yarmouth, Cape Cod, March 4th, O. S. A. D. 1730, and died at Tiverton, R. I. Sept. 24th, 1807, and was buried at New-Bedford, where he had been Pastor over a congregational church 43 years. His parents, though in moderate circumstances, were reputable, and he laboured with them till he had passed the 20th year of his age. During the earlier, as well the latter part of his minority, he discovered such uncommon traits of genius, and symptoms of a strong mind, as, together with his pre-eminent knowledge of the sacred scriptures, and those other few books thrown in his way, awakened the attention of the few intelligent and good men, who happened to know him. They solicited, and finally obtained his father's consent, though at a late period, to fit him for college, which was completed in the short term of six months under the care of the Rev. Mr. Green, of Barnstable. His rapid improvement, while at the seminary in Cambridge, was such, as to give him a rank for genius and learning with the most distinguished of his class.

After leaving college, his application to study was unremitted, and though devoted to almost every branch of science, yet Divinity was his main object; in this he peculiarly excelled.

In the later stages of life he is said to have applied himself to chemistry, in which it is testified by adepts, that he was a distinguished proficient. The year 1775 awakened his attention to politicks, and he became a whig partizan, writing many forcible pieces in the newspapers, which animated the confident, and revived the spirits of the timid for the important contest. These speculations gratified his friends, and were highly applauded by the publick. He also brought himself into a considerable degree of notice by decyphering Dr. Church's letter, which was written at the commencement of the revolutionary war, and exposed to a relation, who had joined the party of the enemy, the particular state of our army. The alarm which that letter occasioned is still remembered, and it was natural for every one to inquire who the person was that made it intelligible for the publick eye. And it was acknowledged by the writer, that it was done very correctly.

Dr. West was a member of the convention for forming the constitution of this State, as also that of the United States. He was an honorary member of the Academy of Arts and Sciences instituted at Philadelphia, and of that at Boston. He received from the university in Cambridge, the degree of Doctor in Divinity, A. D. 1793.

In the latter part of his life, his memory failed to that degree, that it was with difficulty he could recognize his most familiar friends. The vast treasure of his ideas began to vanish at the age of seventy years,



and during the course of seven succeeding years, the great man disappeared, and it was an afflictive sight to his friends, and all who had known him in the glory of his understanding, to perceive he had survived all his wit and learning.

Doctor West, notwithstanding his powers and knowledge, was not very popular, as a preacher, excepting upon particular occurrences.

He used no notes in preaching, during the last thirty years of his ministry, unless upon some special occasion. He had so retentive a memory, and such perfect knowledge of every subject, that he could preach an hour upon any text without any premeditation, and yet with coherence and unity of design. It is to be regretted that he left behind him so little in writing. Had he in several periods of life written more, and used more bodily exercise, he might have been useful much longer.

His publications were, a Sermon at the ordination of the Rev. Samuel West, of Needham; Sermon before the provincial convention at Watertown, 1776; Sermon at the anniversary of the Fathers' landing at Plymouth, 1777; Sermon at the ordination of the Rev. Mr. Allyn at Duxborough, 1788; a small Tract on Infant Baptism, and Essays on Liberty and Necessity in two parts, in which the arguments of William Edwards and others, for necessity, are considered. Printed at New-Bedford, 1795.\*

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\* This book was replied to by Dr. Edwards, and a rejoinder to him was promised by Dr. West to the publick, and so far prepared, that it might be finished with a little exertion, if the publick attention and liberality were to call for, and support the publication. It is desirable, that some person of science, and metaphysical acumen, would review Dr. West's Essays, in some of our periodical works.

Doctor West's *style* of writing and preaching had nothing in it peculiarly deserving imitation, though the matter of his discourses was pertinent and solid. They were always independent and commonly original in their form: any defects in the tone and inflexion of his voice were always compensated by rich information and irresistible force of argument.

His *manner of studying* upon religious subjects was not wholly peculiar to himself, being similar to that of Mr. Locke, and Dr. Taylor; to this he adhered with strictness. Without any discoverable partiality for, or prejudice against the manner and systems of Calvin, or Arminius, Athanasius, Arius or Socinus, his appeal was always direct to the bible, which he was often wont to say "was its own best interpreter." He was therefore more frequent in the use of a concordance than a commentator, and never had recourse to the latter but in cases of great obscurity. His common phraseology was, "Moses says,—The prophet says—Our Saviour says—The apostles say,"—and while he substantiated his doctrines on words and phrases clearly defined and explained, he would not lay much stress on *particles*, or ground an argument of the truth of an essential doctrine on the Greek article *ὁ* or any other particle in the Hebrew, Greek, or Latin languages.

His *method of teaching* his pupils in divinity was always consonant with the protestant principles of free inquiry, and the sufficiency of the scriptures. He endeavoured to make his pupils understand before he required their belief. His primary lessons respected the habit of attention, love of the truth, zealous disposition or research; and instead of expecting from them to imbibe at



once all he should teach, he was satisfied if they would only examine carefully what he had said. His pupils not only acquired historical and critical information, but principles of interpretation and reasoning, and no man was better able to convert the selfsufficient dogmatist into an elementary divine, and establish his faith on the basis of axioms, which he would never relinquish but from the impulses of folly and vice.

His *opinions*, it would be improper to detail, without adducing express authorities from his writings. It may however be observed, that he thought a willingness to be damned was not a christian exercise; that the evidence brought to prove a total depravity in mankind was defective and insufficient; that men possess a *self-determining* power, without which there could be neither freedom, virtue or vice, praise or blame; and of consequence he was opposed to the Hopkinsian, or rather Edvardian system of ideas, with the supporters of which he was frequently in controversy.

*His manners and domestick character*, were peculiar. The former were indeed unpolished, but such were the charms of his conversation, that he was an acceptable companion not only to literary men, but to all discerning people of fashion. His exterior figure, deportment and temper, resembled those of Dr. Johnson, if we may decide from the portrait given of the latter by artists and biographers. In domestick affairs he was wholly unconcerned, till compelled to attention by imperious necessity. This deficiency was discreetly supplied by his assiduous, intelligent consort, and will be forgiven in studious men, by those who consider the incompatibility of a detail solicitude in household matters, with a strong thirst for knowledge.

No man can serve two masters. The reports circulated of Dr. West's eccentricities are most of them questionable, and all of them might pass without a smile in such as knew his substantial merits.

The subject of this biographical notice had his blemishes, and they are mentioned not to depreciate the dead, but to give an instructive hint to the living. A new book of merit, or the conversation of a sentimental friend, was devoured with an avidity, which absorbed his whole attention, and made him neglect the common rules of decorum. He could not readily forgive those, who doubted the truth of certain favourite opinions, or reminded him of any instances of credulity, in which he was deceived by his benevolence, and being wholly absorbed by the utility of the *end*, he became blind in discerning the *means* of attaining it. A stranger also might suppose, from the manner of his devotion, that he was less devout, than his intimate acquaintance knew him to be; for, to his friends it was certain, that neither tone or gesture were any infallible criteria of faith, or piety. He believed more than most men, and felt as much as any man, at those times, and upon those occasions, when it was proper to loosen the reins of thought, and yield to the full control of sentimental emotions.

But truth and justice oblige us to compensate the mention of such failings, by saying, that no man could accuse Father West of the wilful violation of any principle of moral rectitude and sincerity. By education, habit and grace, he sustained the character of strict veracity, steady patriotism and philanthropy, unshaken evangelical faith, and deserves to be enrolled as a Rabbi in the Christian Israel.



Without vanity, he was always gratified by attentions. Knowledge made him humble, and without any expressions of assurance, he always signified a modest hope that he had closed with the terms of salvation proposed in the gospel, and trusted

he should enter into his Master's joy, believing that mortality would be swallowed up of life, and that saints will rise in the likeness of their glorious Redeemer.

Jan. 20, 1808.

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*For the Anthology.*

## ORIGINAL LETTERS;

From an AMERICAN TRAVELLER in EUROPE, to his friends in this country.

### LETTER SIXTEENTH.

*Naples, Dec. 5, 1804.*

MY DEAR SISTER,

IF I did not know that the thermometer would contradict me, I should say, that the weather was now as cold as it is with you. The truth is, that substantially, to your feelings, it is so. You *suffer* as much from the cold here, as in America, though there is no frost, and though you do not perceive the usual appearances, which indicate severity of cold in our climate. Tomorrow, however, it is probable, the Sirocco will again return, and will bring with it, its warm and enervating blast. Never was a climate more changeable than that of Rome. We have had three chilly, freezing, northwestern gales, and as many *Chiroccos*, or southern breezes, bringing with them ennui and debility, relaxation and ill health. That you have some mild, beautiful days in Italy, in which you fully realize the descriptions of the poets, cannot be doubted, and when the weather is fine, nature seems here better to respond to the softness of the climate. You see the country covered with verdure; the grass has the soft colour and the vigour of spring; the whole tribe

of culinary vegetables are in full perfection throughout the winter. It is the summer, *here*, which makes them disappear; the hardy vegetables of the north cannot withstand the sultry summer blasts of the Campania of Rome.

The gardens in Rome are in their highest glory at this season. I will give you a picture of them; two objects appear to attract the attention of the gardener: shade in summer, shelter in winter; to effect these important objects, he sacrifices *prospect*, though he retains romantic and retired beauties; his garden is laid out in walks of evergreen, consisting of the arbutus, laurustinus, and laurel. The box, not unfrequently, blends his bright and glossy verdure, and his *coarse* perfume; these hedges are from seven to ten or twelve feet high, and sometimes are permitted to form bowers; they are suffered to grow so thick, as to be impenetrable to the sun or wind. Fancy then, fine hedges of these most beautiful and glossy evergreens, the laurustinus now in full flower, protecting you from the northern blasts, and equally securing you from the scorching sun; imagine this garden, or rural walk,



interrupted by artificial fountains, in the most expensive and noble stile, pouring their cool and refreshing, sometimes murmuring, and often roaring, streams, into some vast basin, formed by the hand of taste, and ornamented, not unfrequently, with ancient sculpture, or with modern works in imitation of the ancients. Walk then with me into the orangery, see in bleak December, the verdant orange trees loaded with golden fruit, unprotected by any canopy but the heavens, and you may almost imagine yourself in the Elysium of the poets. The truth is, that the appearances of nature contradict your feelings at Rome; you feel chilly; you cherish the fireside; but you issue out in the heat of the day; you find yourself oppressed with the warmth of the sun; you gather the ripe orange, and you realize around you tropical scenery. Such is the odd picture of the Roman climate.

I have forgotten one part of the colouring which would have increased the contrast. Ascend the Vatican, and you behold on one side the summer I have just described, and on the other, at the short distance of forty miles, the *snow covered* Apennines.

No people have ever carried the arts, which contribute to luxury, to so great a height as the ancient Romans. I have spoken of their proud trophies to their conquerors, and of their vain attempts to give immortality to their tombs. I must now descend to those edifices and establishments, which were the consequence, either of a depraved luxury, which hastened the destruction of the Roman empire, or of that *slavery*, to which the masters of the world were, in their turn, obliged to submit. When the Roman people, degraded by habits of luxury,

indolence, and vice, introduced by their conquests, and the splendour of their consuls, prefects, prætors, and other officers, who had preyed upon the conquered provinces, lost that characteristic industry, simplicity and enterprize, and that love of virtue, which had distinguished them in their early history; when torn by civil dissensions, they suffered an enterprising and popular general to lead them to the subjugation of an illustrious Senate, which had so gloriously conducted Rome to its splendour, it became necessary to govern this monstrous populace, whom ambition and love of power had excited to action.

The Roman emperours, then the masters of the world, though dependent for *all their* power, on a *few cohorts*, and a disorderly and turbulent populace, introduced the system of supporting that people in idleness, and of amusing them by publick exhibitions. During several centuries, the Roman people no longer engaged in constant wars, nor occupied with any profitable or honourable employment, were supported by the vast contributions of tributary nations, with every species of games, and spectacles, which proud or ingenious magnificence could invent.

The relicts of the splendid edifices for these spectacles, excite the astonishment of every visitor of Rome. Almost every emperour had the pride or vanity to erect a new place of exhibition.

The Circus Maximus was the largest and most magnificent of these places of publick spectacles. Authors differ about its dimensions. The most extravagant say, that it was capable of containing 380,000, and the most moderate, 150,000 persons. Either of them would exceed all belief, if the scite and gen-



eral dimensions were not, at this day, perfectly visible. A place that could have contained the inhabitants of every city in the United States, must, you will admit, have been a phenomenon worthy of admiration; of this building very little remains except its foundation, which shews its form, and a great variety of detached ornaments, which have been transferred to adorn the different edifices of modern Rome. The situation of these grand edifices may be an object of curiosity to you. The Circus Maximus was situated directly opposite to the magnificent palace of the Cæsars, and the emperours and imperial family usually enjoyed the publick spectacles from the balcony of the palace. The circus Maximus was not, as its name would import, a circle; its form was elliptical, or oval. This was also the case with all the circuses, the remains of which I have seen. The amphitheatres were generally, and I believe universally, circular.

The circus of Caracalla was also a most noble building, of which the walls are still entire, and which enable you to form a correct idea of this species of building.

The theatre of Marcellus, so called in honour of the nephew of Augustus Cæsar, who died at an early age, and who was intended to be his successor, was very nearly in the centre of the city, and was a superb building. We are indebted for what remains of it to the cupidity, rather than the good sense of the modern Romans. They have erected dwelling houses upon

the old walls, so that you can perfectly discover the stile of architecture, and its general dimensions.

But the most complete edifice of this nature, if we consider its original magnificence, or its present state of preservation, is the *Colisæum*, as it is vulgarly called, from a colossal statue of Nero, which stood in the centre of it. It was really the Flavian theatre, so called in honour of Flavius Vespasianus, the emperour, who erected it upon his successful return from the war against the Jews, in which he had taken Jerusalem. It is said, that it was erected by the labour of 12,000 Jewish prisoners, whom Vespasian brought with him. When the theatre was dedicated, Titus gave a great spectacle of combats between gladiators and wild beasts.

They pretend that 5000 animals of different species were killed upon the occasion. It is built altogether of the freestone, of which St. Peter's, and all the fine edifices of Rome are built. Two thirds of this vast building are yet extant, and the sides, which remain, are almost perfect, as the whole would still have been, if the popes had not demolished it, for the purpose of erecting their private palaces. It was four stories high externally, and comprised every ancient order of architecture. It is 1641 feet in circumference, and was capable of containing 80,000 spectators. Degraded as it has been by modern Vandals, it is still the noblest monument of antiquity extant.



*For the Anthology.*

## BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES OF HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY.

### Department II. HOLLISIANA.

IN commencing this review, we intended to give some account of the most curious and valuable books at Cambridge, following the arrangement of the catalogue published in 1790; but we found that the undertaking would lead to a series of remarks, too extensive for the publication into which the former number was candidly received. We have therefore concluded to restrict our notice to those books only, which contain memoranda by Mr. HOLLIS, or appear to have been selected by him for their intrinsic value, variety, or antiquity.

I. Chronological and historical demonstration of the king's ecclesiastical jurisdiction. By WILLIAM PRYNNE, 6 vols. fol. Lond. 1666.

"It has been thought proper to bind this copy of a very curious and scarce work in *six volumes*, for the conveniency of the ingenious students of Harvard college at Cambridge, in New England, who shall consult it.

"The copy was complete in three tomes, when purchased a few years ago; but was mutilated afterwards, shamefully, in a manner not so proper to relate, and the scarcer part of the scarcer tome from page 848 to 993 stolen!

"It is supposed that *there are not six complete copies of this valuable work, at this time in Great Britain.*"

T. H.

Pall Mall, October 1, 1769.

To account for this scarcity, the transcriber of the preceding, adds the following particulars.

The Catalogue of the Harleian Library, p. 456, has this remark. "Most of the printed copies of the two first volumes were consumed by the fire of London in 1666, not above seventy of them being rescued from the flames; which rendered them so scarce that a complete set has been sold for *thirty pounds*."

Mr. Prynne himself, in "an address to the reader," at the end of the second volume, after mentioning the dreadful fire, says, "among other millions of books thus suddenly consumed, while I was busie in endeavouring all I could to excite others to resist and extinguish these supinely over long neglected raging flames, and to preserve the publique records of the King and kingdom from their fury, Mr. Thomas Ratcliffe's, my printer's house, near Doctor's commons, with most of the printed copies of this tome, (taken fully finished at the press, except the intended tables to it) as likewise the second tome formerly published, and of the first book and third tome, (wherein I had made some progress) were there burned together with it; not above seventy of them being rescued from the fire, to my damage of neare two thousand pounds."

This must have been a heavy loss to the author, as he had before been sentenced to pay a fine of 5000*l.* for publishing his "*Histriomastix*," to stand in the pillory, lose his ears, be



expelled the University and Lincoln's Inn, and to remain imprisoned for life. While in prison he wrote some books, which were also deemed libels, for which he was again brought into the star chamber, and severely punished. But in 1640, after about seven years confinement, he was released by an order of the House of Commons, and entered triumphantly into London. He was soon after elected member of Parliament for a borough in Cornwall, and became the chief manager of the trial of Archbishop Laud. However, he had the honesty to speak in defence of the king, for which he was sent to prison. On obtaining his liberty he wrote a great number of books on law and religion. He contributed his endeavours towards the restoration of Charles II, for which he was appointed keeper of the records in the tower, and died 1667.

The defalcated leaves in the ponderous work, which led to these remarks, "contained the whole matter in dispute between the king and the pope in the affair of Thomas a Becket, and the other principal usurpations in Great Britain."

[See *Memoirs of T. Hollis, Vol. I.* p. 314.]

II. The original manuscript of TRENCHARD'S Essays. *Folio, elegantly bound in blue leather.*

These papers came into the possession of John Milner, Esq. who left them to Thomas Gordon. He dying in 1750, they were given to Mr. R. Barron, who published them in 1755, and gave the original manuscript to Mr. Hollis with this "Note."

"I have been assured by several persons, and one, in particular, that was a relation, that Mr. Trenchard never committed any thing to writing himself; but that his custom

was, after he had meditated and settled his thoughts upon a subject, to employ any friend at hand, and sometimes a servant, as an amanuensis, to whom he dictated, for the most part, standing or walking across the room.' R. B.

Mr. Gordon, in his preface to Cato's letters, gives a long account of Trenchard; see, also, Hollis's *Memoirs*, Vol. II. p. 569—573.

III. *Les lecons de la Sagesse*, par M. DEBONNAIRE. Paris, 1751. 3 vol. 12mo.

The Abbe Debonnaire was a learned man, and one of the Fathers of the Oratory, successors of the Fathers of Port Royal, who, as well as their predecessors, were exiled and dispersed. He was the author of "*Les Devoirs reduits, a leur vrais principes*," in 4 vols. 8vo. and the "*Lettres analitiques*," against the miracles of the Abbe Paris.

He was the particular friend of the Abbe P. P. Ll. Anglois, who, at the desire of Mr. Hollis, wrote "*Precis de la vie de Messire Louis Debonnaire*." This Mr. Hollis transcribed, and prefixed to the copy of the above work, which he sent to our library. As this interesting article of biography has never been published, we propose to translate it for some future number of the Anthology.

IV. Introduction to moral philosophy, translated from the Latin. By FRANCIS HUTCHESON. Glasgow, 1753. 2d edit. 12mo.

"The author died at Dublin, 1746, of a fever, occasioned by an anxious concern for his country, at that time vexed and harassed by impious men, rebelling against law and liberty, and appearing in open arms to impose on these nations a popish pretender.

"When the melancholy account of his death reached Glasgow, the



place of his education, and where he had taught the highest and best philosophy for many years with the greatest success, his associates and friends drew up the following character of him, which was inserted in the publick papers.

“He was a man blessed with an extensive genius, deep penetration, and universal knowledge; accompanied with the most amicable simplicity of manners, sweetness of temper, warmth of heart, and dignity of soul; and eminently practised that virtue and benevolence with which he endeavoured to inspire others, for WHAT HE TAUGHT, HE WAS.

“Happy had it been for his country, happy for the Society of which he was a member, happy for those, to whom he was endeared by ties of acquaintance, blood, and friendship, had the unerring hand of Providence prolonged a life of so much worth! But let us rather rejoice in the good he has done, and that HE WAS ONCE OURS, than repine at our loss, and the disappointment of our fondest wishes.”

“NOTE. *The above character of Mr. Hutcheson was drawn by Mr. Moor, professor of Greek in the university of Glasgow.*” T. H.

The life of Hutcheson, prefixed to the quarto edition of his moral philosophy was written by Dr. Leechman, principal of the college of Glasgow, and is one of the finest pieces of biography in the English language.

There was a striking likeness of Mr. Hutcheson made in wax, by

the ingenious Mr. Gausset, from which a large medallion was cast by A. Selvi, at Florence; a general description of which, with an engraving, may be seen in count Mazzuchelli's museum, published at Venice, 1763, 2 vols. fol. Lat. et Ital. entitled, “*Numismata virorum doctrina præstantium.*” See the engraving also in Hollis's Memoirs, vol. 2. p. 586, and the medallion in silver, in the Cabinet at Cambridge, presented by Mr. Hollis.

V. A dialogue between a Knight and a Clerke, concerning the power spiritual and temporal. By WILLIAM OCCHAM. *Imprinted at London, in Flete strete, in the house of Thomas Berthelet.* 1559. 12mo.

A former possessor of this curious book, R. Nicholson, has prefixed to it several pages of his remarks upon Occham, and the character of this learned disputant, from Fox's Monuments of the Church, J. C. Scaliger, Trithemius, and several others, under the title of “*Roberti Nicholson Eclecta.*” These are succeeded by six pages of “*Englishe Epicke Poetrie,*” and additional notes, selections, &c.

“The said William Occham flourished Anno Domini 1326, and after, in the raigne of Edward III. kinge of England. He was born at Oke-ham, nere Ripley, in the countie of Surrey, about 20 miles southwest from London. He was buried in a monasterie of the minorite in the famous citie of Monachium, or Munchen, in Bavaria: this inscription on marble was plac-

ed over him;

ANNO DNI 1347, DECIMO APRILIS

OBIIT

EXIMIUS DOCTOR SACRÆ THEOLOGIÆ,  
FRATER

GULIELMUS, DICTUS OCCAN, DE ANGLIA.  
RERUM IN ANGLIA TUNC POTIEBATUR  
EDVARDUS TERTIUS.”



Occham studied under the famous Scotus. After he had completed his studies and left his master, he publickly attacked his doctrines. So noted was he for controversy,

that one of the friends of Scotus wrote thus on his death :

' Nunc est mortuus, ut apparet,  
Sed si viveret id negaret.'

*For the Anthology.*

## REMARKER, No. 31.

"Common reason and humanity will have some influence upon mankind,  
whatever becomes of speculations." Butler.

COMPASSION is not unmingled pain. In certain cases pleasure prevails in our sympathies with the unhappy. The true pathetick in composition is pleasing to the mass of readers. Moving eloquence, impassioned oratory, is a grateful repast to the multitude. Deep tragedy is one of the luxuries of both literary amateurs and the common people. When it makes them glow, and tremble, and weep, it is pronounced a high entertainment. Those tragedies, which terminate unhappily, in which, after a series of perplexities and woes, there is no revolution of fortune in favour of the principal character; and he sinks under conflicting passions, or accumulated ills, have as much success with the publick as those, which dispense more exact poetical justice. In the opinion of Mr. Addison, *King Lear* reformed has lost half its beauty; though other doctors insist, that the venerable monarch and his dutiful daughter ought, upon every principle, to be recovered to prosperity in the end. It is certain, however, that, in many instances, a work of genius, whether of the orator, the poet, or the painter, derives its merit and attraction from its command over the painful passions. Hence criticks and philosophers,

not less than moralists and divines, have not omitted to inquire how it happens, that affecting objects and representations ever impart pleasure. They have advanced different and opposite hypotheses, intended to explain this mysterious part of our constitution.

Various theories upon this subject are cited and discussed in the *Philosophy of Rhetorick*, by Dr. Campbell. With the assistance of this author, the Remarker will introduce them to his readers, with some observations on their respective merits and defects.

The Abbe Du Bos has a name among that class of writers, who have taken in charge the feelings of mankind, upon what is beautiful and deformed in nature and art, and who lay down rules to enable us to smile or weep, to be pleased or displeased, always in the right place, and the right measure.\* According to him, "few things are more disagreeable to the mind than that listlessness, into which it falls, when it has nothing to occupy it, or to awaken the passions. To get relief from this irksome state it seeks with avidity, every amusement and pursuit, busi-

\* *Critical Reflections on poetry, painting and musick.* Translated by Nugent.



ness, gaming, news, shows, publick executions, romances. Whatever will rouse the passions and take off the mind's attention from itself, is grateful. For this purpose, it matters not what the emotion be, only the stronger it is, so much the better. For this reason," he says, "those passions, which in themselves are most afflicting and disagreeable, are preferable to the pleasant, inasmuch, as they most effectually relieve the soul from that oppressive languor, which preys upon it in a state of inactivity. They afford it ample occupation, and by giving play to its latent movements and springs of action, convey a pleasure, which more than counterbalances the pain."

To be rescued from that torpid, but corrosive rest, which the Abbe mentions, is indispensable to enjoyment. Our happiness is derived from the exercise of our faculties and affections upon suitable objects. 'The restlessness of those who are at rest, the wants of those who want nothing,' are well understood. The pain of sloth, of vacuity, *ennui*, or *tædium vitæ*, has been represented by one of the modern philosophers, not indeed of the highest authority, as the main spring of human actions and improvements, and the cause of the distinction between men and brutes. Most persons have, at some time or other, felt a weariness of life, an oppressive sense of the nihil-ity of things, and lamented the insipidity of their ordinary pursuits and amusements. This malady is most common in those, who have suffered their minds to sink into a relaxed and indolent tone; or who are not compelled by circumstances, to make exertion. If any have not observed the laws of moderation, in the indulgence of pleasure, whether gay amusements, or sensual

gratifications, the spirit of enjoyment soon languishes and calls for more pungent excitements. When the imagination and sensibility have not been subjected to discipline, or have been rendered sickly and eccentric by the habit of novel reading, the people and affairs of this every day world, and the common duties of life, of course, want power to interest.

There is a great choice of preventives and remedies for this irksome vacuity, and listlessness of mind. They should be differently applied, according to the nature of the case. The evil is averted or counteracted by varied and habitual employment, with proper intervals of harmless recreation, by the interesting cares of social and domestick life, by the pursuits of literature, science and taste, by attention to the external sciences, which at once afford novelty, and require exertion, by cherishing the sentiments of devotion, and the charities and the hopes of religion. "That mind will never be vacant, which is frequently recalled, by stated duties, to meditations on eternal interests; nor can any hour be long, which is spent in obtaining some new qualification for celestial happiness."

The doctrine of Du Bos seems to be, that the strength, not the quality of emotions, determines their influence upon enjoyment. One would think, he had in view those distempered minds, of which it may be almost said, they are never happy, unless they are miserable: such was that of the French lady, who, in giving an account of her sufferings from a faithless lover, concluded with the exclamation, "Ah! c'étoit le bon temps, j'étois bien malheureuse." The suggestions of the Abbe are right, as they respect the dissatisfied state of the person, who wants in-



teresting objects of attention and pursuit. They show that it is desirable, that passion of some kind or other, should be excited; but they do not show why a painful is preferable, in any case, to a pleasant emotion. The sensations produced by exhibitions of misery, afford, he says, a more effectual cure for languor and indolence, than those occasioned by prosperous scenes; sympathy with sorrow is more addressed by those who would rouse attention, than sympathy with joy; because the former are more powerful. They give a stronger impulse; they rouse the soul more completely from its torpor. It is true, in general, that painful impressions are the most violent and lasting. We adopt more easily and entirely the suffering, than the enjoyment of a fellow being. Yet there are instances, in which the first impulse of joy has been even fatal. Chilo, the Lacedemonian, died upon hearing that his son had gained a prize in the Olympick games. Sophocles is related to have died in consequence of a decision, in a contest of honour, being pronounced in his favour. In these, and other cases of the kind, without doubt, the previous state of anxiety and suspense contributed to the effect. It is not the superior strength merely of the painful passions and sympathetick emotions, which gives them their attractive power, and recommends them to authors and artists, to be called into exercise, by the efforts of genius and skill. In real life, the measure of pain excited by objects of suffering, may greatly exceed any delight there is in compassion. Without all the sensibility of the ancient poet, who, it is said, wrote a book describing the miseries of the human state, and was so affected

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with the picture he had drawn, that he destroyed himself at the conclusion of his task, we may be often glad to take back indifference, and dispense with pity. A work of fiction, in prose or poetry, a drama or epopee may have descriptions too full of horrors and miseries, to consist with that measure of sympathy, which is pleasant, so as to excite only aversion and disgust. Yet in such instances the indolence of the mind is roused, the languor, which makes the spectacle of woe so grateful, is removed. If then the distressful passions contain a mixture of pleasure, it arises less from their strength, than from the agreeable affections, with which they are connected, or the interest taken in the display of respectable and virtuous energies of the mind and heart.

Fontenelle's hypothesis is expressed in a translation by Mr. Hume.\* "Pleasure and pain, which are two sentiments so different in themselves, differ not so much in their cause. The movement of pleasure, pushed a little too far, becomes pain; and the movement of pain, a little moderated, becomes pleasure. Hence it proceeds, that there is such a thing as a sorrow, soft and agreeable. It is a pain weakened and diminished. The heart likes, naturally, to be moved and affected. Melancholy objects suit it, and even disastrous and sorrowful, provided they are softened by some circumstance. It is certain that, on the theatre, the representation has almost the effect of reality; yet it has not altogether that effect. However we may be hurried away by the spectacle, whatever dominion the senses and imagination may usurp over the reason; there still lurks at the bottom a certain idea of falsehood in the whole of what

\* Essay on Tragedy.



we see. This idea, though weak and disguised, suffices to diminish the pain, which we suffer from the misfortunes of those, whom we love ; and to reduce that affliction to such a pitch as converts it into pleasure. We weep for the misfortunes of a hero, to whom we are attached. In the same instant we comfort ourselves by reflecting, that it is nothing but a fiction ; and it is precisely that mixture of sentiments, which composes an agreeable sorrow, and tears, that delight us. But as that affliction, which is caused by exterior and sensible objects, is stronger than the consolation, which arises from an internal reflection, they are the effects and symptoms of sorrow, which ought to prevail in the composition.

It cannot be ill-nature in a critick, to charge this account with *verbiage*. It conveys no meaning or a false one. It is justly inquired, how much must a merchant's loss of property fall short of his whole fortune, to affect him, like gain, with positive delight. How small must the provocation or affront be, to change resentment into gratitude, and affect us like a mark of respect. The principal truth, which is contained in the position that pain moderated becomes pleasure, and pleasure increased, pain, is this, that in a mixture of agreeable and disagreeable, the former are often heightened by the latter. This critick says, that in all representations of human nature in trouble, the grief arises from viewing them as real, and the pleasure from the recollection that they are feigned. But it is not only feigned, but actual calamity, which is sometimes attractive. Men are prone to believe that a story which moves them is true, and unwilling to admit evidence that it is a fiction, because it will diminish

their satisfaction. Fiction is contrived, as far as possible, to appear reality. Tragical narratives, and descriptions of orators and historians, on which we rely, are read with delight. Disastrous events, that have come within our knowledge, are related and heard with avidity. All this evinces, that there may be a great interest taken in objects of suffering, without that softening circumstance, which Fontenelle makes the source of the pleasure, viz. the recollection that we are grieving for a creature of fancy.

In respect to all fictitious representations, especially the drama ; the effect does not imply a belief that all which passes before is reality. The mechanical contrivances and other concomitants of a theatrical exhibition never produce a perfect illusion. There can be no answer to the main doctrine of Johnson upon this subject in his preface to Shakespeare. The scene of a play is laid in Athens or Rome, but the place where it is acted is known to be neither Athens or Rome, but a modern theatre. The players are known to be players. The stage is never mistaken for an apartment in a palace, or for a field of battle. Imitations move our passions not because they are conceived to be realities, but because they bring realities to mind. The misery which we lament is such as we apprehend might be, or has been, and not what we believe to exist. There is a consciousness of fiction throughout the representation. If the suffering displayed be extreme and shocking, we do not find relief by thinking it is painted woe ; but we feel disgust and horror ; and avoid seeing it again, as we should avoid any real distress, which we wanted fortitude to support.



Mr. Hume's theory in his Essay on Tragedy, and which he calls a supplement to the two preceding, is reducible to two positions. The first that tragedy and pathetick eloquence please and move by exhibiting distress with distinctness, force and life. The question is where it was. He has said no more than this, that the picture of a melancholy scene is contemplated with more pleasure, the more perfectly it is executed. The inquiry may still be made, whence arises this pleasure? the other position is, that the delight received from descriptions and addresses that raise the melancholy feelings is admiration of the genius and talent, which the historian or poet, the orator or actor display. The pleasure of criticism, of detecting the ability

and art of a speaker is not only distinct from the pathetick effect of his eloquence, but is in a great degree inconsistent with it. The audience are never more pleased than when they forget the speaker and his art in his subject. When he excites our sympathetick emotions it is rather by concealing than displaying art. A critick may employ himself in judging of the genius, and skill of the orator, but he cannot at the same time be a subject of the passions intended to be raised. The great proportion of hearers approve the person who speaks to their hearts and commend his performance. But how it is accomplished, they neither give themselves the trouble to consider, nor attempt to explain.

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*For the Anthology.*

### SILVA, No. 37.

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#### RAPPEL DES JUIFS.

THERE was a book with this title published in the year 1643, in small 8vo. without the name of printer, or place; but the manuscript was in the possession of the Pere Simon, and the author is known to be Isaac La Peyrere, who seriously maintained in a book, entitled *Preadamita*, that there were men before Adam, and proved it, as he thought, from the 5th Rom. v. 12, 13, 14. The work, of which we now intend to say something, called "Rappel des Juifs," is one of the most rare and curious in the world, for it was suppressed by the magistrates as soon as it appeared. I saw the only complete copy in Paris, and carefully read the preface twice over. In it he predicts the recal of the Jews, and their restoration to the

holy land; which is to recover its ancient fertility. A temporal christian prince, he predicts, shall be their leader, more just, and more victorious than any of their ancient kings; this king, he says, must be a king of France, and that he shall attain to universal dominion. The reasons which he gives for its being a king of France are curious. 1. Because he is the most christian king, and the oldest son of the church. The second and third reasons are still more fanciful. The 4th is: "because it is probable that France will be the place, where the Jews will be first invited to collect, in order to become christians, and where they will find a retreat from the persecutions, which they suffer under other governments. For *France* is a land of *franchise*, (freedom.) It



allows no slavery; whoever steps upon it is free."

This extract from Peyrere's preface might have been shown to the Emperour Napoleon before his decree, for the convocation of Jewish deputies from every part of Europe. Certain it is, that an extract appeared in the *Moniteur*, during the meeting of the Assembly, and I at first supposed it to be a fabrication, intended to flatter the Emperour, and favour his projects. But upon seeing the rare and extraordinary work, from which it was taken, I made a note of the passage.

The treatise, called "*Preadamitæ*," is not rare, though this also was condemned to be burnt, and the author thrown into prison, at Brussels. Menage had requested the author to send him a copy "before it came to *light*." Peyrere understood the word, and sent him the book, with this verse of Ovid, changing only *urbem* for *ignem*.

"Parve, nec invideo, sine me, liber ibis in ignem."

This odd man pretended to have recanted his errors, and obtained absolution from the Pope; but he was at last far from being a papist, and died with his head full of his Preadamitick notions. Here is his epitaph, copied from the *Ménagiana*.

"La Peyrère ici git, ce bon Israélite,  
Huguenot, Catholique, enfin Pré-adamite.

Quatre religions lui plurent à la fois,  
Et son indifférence étoit si peu commune,

Qu'après quatre-vingt ans qu'il eut à  
faire un choix,

Le bon homme partit, et n'en choisit  
pas une."

—  
MILTON.

THE wonderful sublimity of the two first books of *Paradise Lost*, is, perhaps, the cause of the neglect of

the other parts. We are sooner wearied with following, than Milton with leading us. If no human wing could long continue such flights through the expanse of creation, assuredly the eyes of common men cannot pursue its track.

But when he becomes a metaphysician, we desert him with weariness, and almost with disgust. It is vain to declaim against the prejudice of Dr. Johnson, and to deny the justice of his decision: every man's experience satisfies him of its truth: we lay Milton down, and forget to resume him.

To induce those who have devoured the early books of the *Paradise Lost* for the twentieth time, before reading the latter ones for the first, to renew their study of Milton and to persevere in it, it is enough to assert, that, if we would read him only for the poetry, and not for the narration, if we would look for placid beauties, as well as astonishing grandeur, contemplate the lawns of pastoral, as eagerly as the fields of epick song, and become as susceptible of delight from Eden, as of terror from Hell, we may learn to enjoy in him the same qualities, as charm us in Collins and Thomson, in Goldsmith and Pope.

Our great heroick poet has as much art in his disposition of events, as greatness in his conception of them. None ever introduced so great a compliment to his principal character, as Milton has bestowed upon Eve, and at the most interesting time in her history, one moment before the fall. The ninth book should be perused at one sitting to enjoy it. We see the serpent, winding through the garden, plotting some device to tempt our parents to disobedience, and to destroy all their posterity: fearful of encountering them together, he hoped to meet



the woman alone. We have next the enchanting description of paradise and of Eve, its chief ornament, which a poet of ordinary notions would have employed instantly to inflame the dæmon by contrast with his own feelings and proper habitations. But the mighty magician, who invests supernatural beings with bodily organs, and plays them before our eyes, as he pleases, who exhibits angelick natures under the operation of human passions, who makes Mammon mean spirited, and Beelzebub magnanimous, Moloch fierce and Belial gentle devils, has given us a picture infinitely more interesting. At the first moment of beholding Eve

— “the evil one abstracted stood  
“From his own evil.”

The personified and compact essence of malignity is instantly changed. Of such an idea nothing could equal the happiness, except the exclamation, that Satan, recovering himself, immediately utters, “Thoughts! whither have ye led me!” which is unequalled by any passage in the volume for surprise and dramattick effect.

—  
CONVERSATION.

“READING,” says Lord Bacon, “makes the full man, conference the ready man, and writing, the exact man.” Conference, as it is here stiled, or social conversation, embraces pleasures and advantages not to be derived either from reading or composing. Properly conducted, therefore, it excludes your “sedentary weavers of long tales,” and professional manufacturers of dry dissertations. It is often our lot, however, to fall into a circle, where one of these spoilers of social life has taken his ground without a single rival, or any interlocutor, who is

permitted to reply with his *yes* or *no*. I do not object to a pertinent story, if it be not a long one, though it be told for the “nine hundred and ninety ninth time;” but when one is unremittingly persecuted by a prating fellow, who relates, at a single interview, the history of his life, the pedigree of his horse, and the biography of his spaniel, with a thousand particularities, which, probably, never exceedingly interested his own little self; one is disposed to inquire, whether some means might not be resorted to, in order to rid society of such a troublesome member.

The other class of intruders, to which I have alluded, is made up of those reading, speculating, or technical men, who, having acquired in their closets that, of which they seem to apprehend every one else to be ignorant, commence grave discourses on different subjects, without regard to the character of their audience, and address the learned or ignorant, their superiors, their equals, or their inferiors, as if they imagined themselves a sort of professors, surrounded by pupils who were looking up to them for instruction. I have heard of one of these sage Doctors (not in anatomy) who, having acquired a superficial knowledge of the humours and structure of the eye, discoursed for some time without notes, to an old lady, that was, probably, experiencing the usual failure of sight at her age: he arrayed his philosophical treatise in all the technical phraseology of the books, and produced a whole, that was equally astonishing to the few spectators present, and to the good, simpering gentlewoman, who did not know opticks from algebra.

I shall mention one other description of character, which interrupts the pleasure of the social circle: it



is the captious man, who claims to be the only one that is able to set you right, under any mistake into which you are supposed to fall. He does not belong to a class that is really the most knowing; for knowledge is generally diffident. This "*anser inter olores*" will often hiss with contempt, when the error is really his own. You may find him triumphing in the detection of a supposed anachronism, when he himself mistakes the date; or sneering at the interpretation of a passage from the sacred writings, which he is compelled afterwards to acknowledge the true exposition.

I propose, that, hereafter, the man

who wishes to give in detail the history of himself, or his companions, or his domesticated animals, should hire his audience, as in some countries they hire mourners to a funeral; that he who delivers his oral dissertations, should be obliged to publish a certain number of copies at his own expense, as candidates for certain degrees are their inaugural dissertations; and that the captious man should, whenever detected in an error, be liable to a high pecuniary mulct, for the benefit of the modest and good humoured, of whose mortification and embarrassment he may, at any time, have been the occasion.

#### CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN LORD KAMES AND MRS. MONTAGU.

*Mrs. Montagu in a tour she made to the Highlands in the autumn of 1766, spent some days at Blair-Drummond with Lord Kames. After her return to her country seat in Northumberland, the noble Lord thus addresses her in a letter dated 29th Oct. 1766.*

##### Letter 1.

TO MRS. MONTAGU.

"On no one thing at present is my heart more bent than to have Mrs. Montagu's good opinion; and although I imagined I could write to her with as much ease, as I could make her a visit at her old castle of Denton Hall, yet when it came to the trial, my heart failed me, and I put the business off from day to day, till I came to be troubled in mind with a spectre, that appeared in the shape of neglected duty. Unless for this powerful call, I blush to own, that probably I should have fallen a sacrifice to that contemptible virtue, called bashfulness.

"On the 10th day of September last, I saw Mrs. Montagu carried off coporally in a postchaise from Blair-Drummond: and yet,

strange to say, she has been the chief of our *dramatis personæ* ever since. In my solitary walks she has never ceased to be my faithful companion, and has inspired me with most valuable hints for my rural embellishments. Follows a sketch of some of them. You will probably remember the long polished walk along the side of the river. That walk is to be extended over a great variety of ground, and to take in a variety of objects, so as to make a circuit of not less than four miles. One part is enchanting: the road sinks imperceptibly into a hollow, originally the bed of a river, lined on both sides with high banks covered with wood, which hides every object from the sight, but the sky. Emerging into open day-light, the first object that strikes the eye is



the noble Castle of Stirling, situated on a rock, wild and romantick.

"A rill of water runs neglected through the fields, obscured by pretty high banks. It is proposed that the water be raised in different places by stone buildings, imitating natural rocks, which will make some beautiful cascades. The banks to be planted with flowering shrubs, and access to the whole by gravel paths. The groupe will produce a mixture of sweetness and liveliness, which makes fine harmony in *gardening*, as well as in *life*.

"There is a mass of wood, as you will recollect, near the house, of at least six or seven acres, grown up by neglect, to an impenetrable thicket. I ordered a path to be made in it, and, on my return from the circuit, was agreeably surprised to find a great variety of pleasing heights and hollows, which had lain quite concealed. I propose this for a *winter-garden*; sand-walks to be carried through it in all directions; and a variety of evergreens will afford shelter, verdure and dry-footing all the winter over. I enjoy this spot even by anticipation, the scene of many amusing thoughts with a sensible companion, and of meditation when alone.

"But amongst my other plans, I have not forgot the spot pitched upon by you for a seat; and because every thing belonging to you should have something peculiar, the bottom to be free from wet, is contrived to fold up, and to have for its ornament, a plate of brass with this inscription, "Rest, and contemplate the beauties of art and nature."

"Did you never observe, that those naturally the most bashful, become, by habit, the most forward. The effort to surmount an obstacle gives an impulse that carries one to the opposite extreme. This is at

present the case with your humble servant; for now he says, that were you ever so fatigued you must listen a little longer. A new edition of the *Elements of Criticism* is demanded, and, if you approve, I will add some remarks to the following purpose. In things merely ornamental, nothing can do better than to copy the works of nature. Hence the beauty of Chinese paper, imitating plants and flowers, flowered silks, &c. But in things made for use, the parts ought to be so constructed as to answer precisely their purpose. Such things, it is true, may admit of ornament; but the constituent parts and the ornaments ought not to be jumbled together. I admit, for example, carved work on a chair, representing leaves or flowers; but what is the meaning of giving feet to a chair representing those of a lion, or of an eagle? What do you think of teaspoons made to imitate the leaf of a tree? A leaf is of all things the least proper for a spoon. And does not there lie the same objection against a fabrick for holding candles, composed of artificial branches and leaves, with artificial birds sitting upon them? I will not dissemble, that my purpose in these questions is to draw you by degrees into a critical correspondence. Would it be too much for me to hope for your assistance in the intended new edition of the *Elements*? I should be proud to have your name conjoined with mine in that work.

"It is needless to fatigue you with explaining what has prevented my intended visit to Denton Hall at this time: several circumstances have made it impracticable. I do not despair of seeing you at London. But, at any rate, you are bound in gratitude to employ the first opportunity upon another visit to Blair-



Drummond, considering the changes that are to be made, and the money to be laid out upon your account. If we once get you there again, you shall not so easily escape as at first. Your landlady remarked on your departure, "Mrs. Montagu seems to be in a great hurry." Perhaps not, said I; but I did not care to press her, as I know you are not fond of new faces. "A most unlucky mistake," replied she; "for I know not such an agreeable woman, or so comfortable a companion: I could pass my life with her." And the same would be the taste of, Madam, your devoted servant; I hope in time to merit the appellation of your faithful friend,

HENRY HOME."

—  
*Letter 2.*

MRS. MONTAGU TO LORD KAMES.

*Denton, Nov. 4, 1766.*

MY LORD,

"I never knew a wise and celebrated person, who was not afraid to write a letter to a trifling correspondent; for when such a man looks down from the summit of his wisdom, and the pinnacle of his reputation, upon so low and minute an object as a common letter, his head begins to turn, and his sight to grow unsteady. So, Sir, take the pains and the penalties, with the painful pre-eminence of your elevation; whilst I, who am on a level with such matters, enjoy the pleasure of writing without fear or wit, and the honour of corresponding with one who writes with both. Happily, whatever flows from the heart goes most directly to the obtaining of that friendship you so kindly offer, and I am so desirous to establish.

"I remember perfectly the walk your Lordship mentions, and all the

beauties of that sweet place. It is happy for a person of your taste, to find in his morning's walk the pastoral, the epick, and the tragick beauties. The gently murmuring river, the shady banks, the beautiful pastures, the noble castle of Stirling, rising in the pride of impregnable strength, defying force and time; and the ruined castle of the Regent, which brings to mind the *tale of other times*, the catastrophe of ambition, and the downfall of greatness, suggest the soft and tender, the sublime and the melancholy ideas, and exercise the various power and affections of the soul. Where there is this happy assemblage of poetick and romantick beauties, so properly adapted to his genius, we will sit and read the charming poet, who sings of

*Le Donne, i cavalieri, l'arme, gli amori,  
Le cortesie, l'audaci imprese.*

"I approve greatly of your lordship's scheme of making a *winter garden*. We are apt to do in our gardens, as we do in our minds; to cultivate the gay ornaments of the summer season, and aim at having all those things, which flourish by mild sunshine, and gracious dews; forgetful of the rude elements of human life, and regardless of the seasons of unfriendly and churlish weather, when sunbeams warm no more, and chilling hoar-frosts fall. Sage is the gardener who procures a friendly shelter of ever-greens to protect him from December storms, and cultivates the winter plants that adorn and enliven the dreary season. He is but half a philosopher, who, when the gardens of Epicurus are out of bloom, cannot retire into the Stoick's walk; and he is too much one, who would rigidly prohibit the gay flowers and sweet aromatics of the summer, and sit always under the cypress shade: so I expect to



find the roses and carnations at Blair-Drummond in June, as well as the snowdrop and cyclamen in December. Your winter garden will be a moral lesson, as well as a pleasant walk for your posterity, recommended to their cultivation, unfading merits and faithful friends.\*

"I am very glad there is going to be a new edition of the *Elements of Criticism*, as I hope the work will be enlarged. Your Lordship does me very unmerited honour, in wishing my name joined to yours in that work; it would be like setting the impression of my silver *thimble* beside the *broad seal* of England.

"I agree entirely with your Lordship, that in things of use, the ornamental part should be subordinate, and the propriety and fitness to its purpose should be apparent. The feet of a chair should express steadiness and firmness. A claw, whether of lion or eagle, is absurd; as the business of it is not to snatch or tear, but to support. Foliages round the frame of a chair or table, are not improper, they adorn the form, without perverting it; and such ornaments are so natural, we may suppose, that in the ages of simplicity, in honour of extraordinary guests, or to add a gaiety to feasts, flowers and branches were put on them. We have fine Gothick buildings in this country, and we have imported Grecian and Roman architecture; but in regard to *les meubles*, we are still in a very barbarous state. I think I could explain why we are so, if my letter was not already too long, to admit of tracing these things to their sources: so I shall only observe, that the old Goths loved punning, and their most polite

\* Lord Kames inserted these observations with some alterations, in a note in the new edition of "*Elements of Criticism*,"

descendants are addicted to *conceits*. The tealeaf imitated in a teaspoon, is most absurd; but in the infancy and decline of taste, the imagination sports with resemblances, relations and analogies; too weak to form a complete design, it pursues some hint given by the nature of the thing to be adorned. I do not know whether I express myself intelligibly, but I mean something, though I am puzzled to communicate that meaning: I may say, as a certain French author does, however, *Si je ne m'entends pas, je me devine*.\*

"I am more than vain, I am proud of Mrs. Drummond's partiality. I desire your Lordship to keep up my interest in that lady. She has so perfectly gained my esteem, that I should be grieved and mortified to lose any share of hers which she ever honoured me with. I had the honour of a most polite and agreeable letter from her. I desire my most respectful compliments to her. I am rejoiced to find your Lordship thinks of being in London this winter. I hope Mrs. Drummond and your son will be of the party.—I am, with great esteem, my Lord, &c. &c.

ELIZ. MONTAGU."

\* The Lady expresses her meaning with great perspicuity. But even in an age of refined taste, an inventive fancy may sport itself capriciously without offence in works where show is combined with utility. Some of the Etruscan utensils, (as their lamps) are fantastical in the highest degree, both in their forms and decorations; and the taste is not to be condemned, if it gives innocent amusement. A silver creampot in the form of a cow, which receives its contents by an opening in the back, and discharges them at the mouth, is not the most convenient form for its office, nor has the device much consonance to nature; but if the utensil performs its purpose tolerably, and the workmanship is excellent, we do not admire it the less for the conceit.



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## POETRY.



### SELECTED.



ELEGY, OCCASIONED BY THE LOSS OF SEVERAL VALUED FRIENDS,  
WHOSE DEATHS SPEEDILY FOLLOWED EACH OTHER.

*Tenuis fugit, ceu fumus, in auras. . . . .* VIRO.

YE fleeting forms, which Friendship's arms inclose,  
From their warm circle quick ye glide away !  
Scarce have we lov'd your image, ere we lose :  
It stands, but while there's time to wish its stay.

Lamented objects of my lorn esteem !  
Where are ye now, ye vanish'd visions, where ?  
Loose as the liquid texture of a dream,  
Ye melted from my mock'd embrace to air !

To the fond sight but one short instant shown,  
To be perceiv'd, approv'd, and disappear !  
Strange apparitions ! whither are ye flown ?  
For corp'ral, palpable, and warm ye were !

Ah ! sure they were not empty shapes, I knew,  
But certain forms, that more than seem'd to be ;  
It was not air : to which my bosom grew ;  
They were not phantoms, I was wont to see.

I felt them substance, felt them fervent glow,  
Saw speculation in their beaming eyes,  
Heard from their lips life's mellow accent flow,  
And mark'd, like mine, their human passions rise.

Yes, once they were : and are they *nothing* now ?  
Has *all* they were for ever ceas'd to be ?  
No more do those fair minds with virtue glow,  
That shed their virtuous beams no more on me ?

Is living soul but one fleet moment lent ?  
And that which beats and THINKS in human kind,  
But dust, whose wild and casual ferment  
Shoots into fits of life, and starts of mind ?

Are POWERS that feel, how fair is Nature's face ;  
This beauteous frame of things that curious scan ?  
Its various parts inspect, compare, and class ;  
And trace, through all, unerring Wisdom's plan ;



POWERS, not alone, that what *appears*, perceive,  
That things *unseen*, by forceful inference, see ;  
Or, skill'd from *nothing* airy worlds to weave,  
With potent call, can bid what is not, be !

POWERS, at the magick of whose rousing voice,  
The past's relenting tomb what *was* restores !  
The shades awake of long departed joys,  
And time gives back again his buried hours !

Are THESE but works of blindly labouring clay ?  
Wrought up by chance to reason's glorious light ?  
That, kindling to a flash of mental day,  
With quick extinction die again to night ?

It is not so : they cannot be extinct :  
Such sacred essence ne'er can shrink to nought :  
Who boasts the power on moral themes to think,  
O'er moral themes shall roll immortal thought.

Yes, ye, that, kept by Memory's wondrous skill,  
So firm in her retentive tablet stay,  
As firmly fixt abide in being still ;  
Fram'd to endure, ye ne'er shall pass away.

'Tis not alone your lov'd ideas wear,  
Warm in this heart, their colours undecay'd ;  
Preserv'd by Heav'n with corresponding care,  
Ye hold, yourselves, a bloom, that shall not fade.

To this fair hope my trusting bosom clings :  
Nought from its hold shall wrench my fast belief ;  
For sweet the balm, the bleeding heart it brings,  
When Friendship's tomb inspires the virtuous grief.



# THE BOSTON REVIEW.

FOR

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*Librum tuum legi & quam diligentissime potui annotavi, quæ commutanda, quæ eximenda, arbitrarer. Nam ego dicere verum assuevi. Neque ulli patientius reprehenduntur, quam qui maxime laudari merentur. PLIN.*

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## ART. 9.

*Reports of cases ruled and adjudged in the several courts of the United States, and of Pennsylvania, held at the seat of the Federal Government. By A. J. Dallas. Vol. 4. Philadelphia. P. Byrne. 8vo. pp. 472. 1807.*

THE rapid increase of publications containing reports of cases, adjudged in the various tribunals of justice in Great Britain and America, sufficiently prove the estimation, in which these valuable records of judicial history are held by the public. Indeed the utility of a general diffusion of the principles, upon which the security of property, life and reputation depend, must be manifest to all, who know and value the legitimate objects of government and society. In the dark ages of the world, antecedent to and during the prevalence of the feudal system, laws seemed to be little more than a system for the benefit of masters in the government of their slaves; and the people scarcely felt an interest in the establishment or administration of codes, which had no respect to their security or comfort.

The gross ignorance of the laity, who knew no art but war, necessarily rendered the clergy the sole de-

positories of the law, as well as the religion, of their country; and it is not surprising, that while the precepts of our holy religion, and the forms of worship were concealed from the common eye, in language unattainable but by the arrogant few, that the laws and the proceedings of the courts of justice, under the controul of the same class of men, should be enveloped in mysteries.

The sudden declension of this mischievous monopoly, after the reformation had put to flight the army of monks, which infested England, and with them their arrogant pretensions to exclusive dominion in the oligarchy, rather than the republic, of letters, opened to the world sources of improvement, of which successive generations have availed themselves to purify the sciences from the rust of monastick pedantry, and to make them subservient to the comfort and happiness of society.

The powerful spirit of commerce too had dissolved the charm, which bound the mind of man to disgraceful servitude, and unshackled property from the fetters, which ages of tyranny had fastened; so that the fruits of labour became the right of him, by whose fatigue they were earned. The whole community



therefore became deeply concerned in the rules, made for the security of property, and for its transmission to those, for whom alone, except himself, man is willing to labour.

In this state of things the principles of all the sciences became, in a degree, common property; the liberal, but prudent use of the press, giving to genius and industry the means of enjoying and improving all the discoveries of the times; this multiplying and magnifying the powers, by which the arts were drawn from under the ruins, which buried them for centuries, and giving to science that polish and improvement, which fitted it for the use and ornament of the human mind.

None of the sciences has, perhaps, derived so much advantage from being opened to publick inspection, and having its gradual improvements displayed to the publick eye, as jurisprudence. In the early times of its advancement, when judges were struggling with the innumerable briars and brambles, which the ingenuity of quibblers had thrown in the way of justice, had there been no record remaining of their successful combats, to this day we might have been shocked with the superiority of cunning over truth, and chicanery over justice. The early reports, however, contained nothing but the naked decisions of the judges, without the reasonings, upon which those decisions were formed. The independent mind yields with reluctance to authority, unsupported by argument. The learning of each class of judges was permitted to die with its possessors, and those who followed were obliged to submit implicitly to precedent, or strike out for themselves a light, which also was doomed to expire with those who produced it. This is the

general character of the first class of cases reported.

The great lawyer and voluminous reporter, however, of queen Elizabeth's time, Sir Edward Coke, rushed into the other extreme, and confounded the reader with the length and minuteness of his cases. All the learning of all the books was put in requisition on every question, which was discussed; and, when reading the arguments of the reporter himself, which he seldom felt a disposition to curtail, we are equally astonished at the indefatigable researches of the lawyer, and the wonderful patience of his auditors. Many important principles, preserved in that work of unparalleled labour, are known by every scientifick lawyer to be now of common use; and a careful study of them, is the duty and interest of every young man, who aims at distinction, in the honourable profession of the law.

If it be considered next to a miracle, that, in a time of comparative barbarism and ignorance, a poet should have exhibited such, I am inclined to say, supernatural powers in the regions of fancy, that in these polished times, a successful imitation of him is the highest aim of the finest writers; it should also be acknowledged wonderful, that in the same period existed a man, who, in the less brilliant, but more laborious course of legal investigation, exhibited a strength of intellect, power of reasoning, and diligence of research, which would put to the blush the most learned and industrious jurists of modern times. Like all other books, however, reports of law cases have become more valuable, in proportion to their cost in latter times. Less desire is shewn to increase the bulk, than to select their contents; and this improvement is produced by



competition. The modern English reports in relation to those of Sir Edward Coke, are like the writings of modern divines, compared to the everlasting ratiocinations of the fathers and of the early clergy. We find now, in the English books, just as much of every case, of the arguments of counsel, and of the reasons given by the judges for their opinions, as we want; and instead of purchasing a great quantity of chaff for the sake of possessing a little wheat, it may be safely said that no man gets more the worth of his money, than the lawyer, who purchases reports.

The foregoing remarks have been made to shew the importance of this department of science, and to increase the limited market of books, which cost so much time and labour, and which we fear do not always find their way to the shelves of those, for whose peculiar instruction they are designed.

Let us imagine for a moment, that so great a luminary of the law, as Lord Mansfield, had died without leaving any monuments of his profound erudition, astonishing intelligence and painful investigation, but the memory of those, who were so happy as to witness his exalted talents. What a chasm should we find in the history of English jurisprudence; and what labour would it cost to catch a glimpse of the light, which he so profusely scattered around him. How much uncertainty would there still be in the law merchant, and especially in that fruitful subject of controversy, contracts of insurance. Thanks to the patient labours of Burrow, Douglas and others, he lived not only for his own times, but for us and our posterity; and as long as commerce shall be encouraged, and mercantile integrity shall be valuable, his mem-

ory, as well as theirs, who gave him immortality, will be held in reverence.

But enough has been said to shew the value of these publications in general. Their effect upon the judge in producing industry of research, and accuracy in opinion, upon the advocate in improving his stile, and refining his argument, upon the legislature in amending the laws, when found to operate injuriously, need not be stated.

It is, therefore, with no common pleasure, we perceive a growing demand for these works. It is sufficient that we have lost the wisdom and learning of our judges from the first settlement of our country to the revolution. How valuable would be the history of their labours in ascertaining the origin of many of our customs, the cause of our deviation, in many instances, in our law proceedings, from those of England, and, in many other particulars, interesting to the moral and political state of our country; subjects now involved, and which ever will be in darkness and confusion, that would probably be intelligible, had we a regular history of our judicial transactions to resort to for information.

After having said so much on this subject, we cannot refrain from another important effect, we think the publishing of reports in the several states of the Union will necessarily produce. Whatever some may think of the utility of preserving distinct local customs and manners in the several states, so as to prevent the so much dreaded evil of a consolidation into one people, we think none will deny the advantage of having the same legal decisions on all general questions of contract, and, especially, on questions touching the law merchant. The necessary intercourse between the citizens



of the different states, would seem to require that the great principles of law, applicable to commercial intercourse, should be the same in all the states. This will be the case, should the practice of publishing the decisions of the courts, and the reasonings of the judges, become general. Pride of character, and a desire to promote the publick good, will induce the judges of one state, to yield to the more powerful arguments of those in another, and a general system of legal principles will be the result.

We come at last to some observations upon Mr. Dallas' 4th volume, a perusal of which, with a view to ascertain its merits, has given occasion to these preliminary observations. Mr. Dallas has the merit of having led the way in this meritorious employment in the United States. He commenced his series of reports in 1790, and we believe it was the first volume of the kind published in America. This is no mean merit. His brethren of the bar must feel obligations to him; and there are others, who owe him some thanks for his labours. The present Governour M'Kean acquired the reputation of a learned judge and able lawyer, by the publicity Mr. Dallas has given to his talents. Whence was it that Pennsylvania acquired, as she certainly did, the credit of having a more respectable judiciary and bar than any other state, but by Mr. Dallas' record of their labours? How much also has New York risen in publick estimation on these points, since their regular publication of the reports of their tribunals?

We cannot withhold an observation, which occurred to us on reading a case reported in the first volume, which was decided so early as 1764. The question was, whether

the insured of a ship, which had been captured, and recaptured, sold, and bought in by the captain for the former owner, who acquiesced in the purchase, should recover for a total or partial loss without abandonment of the ship. The court ruled that he could only recover an indemnity according to his loss. The Supreme Judicial Court of this Commonwealth has given a contrary decision in two cases; but we are happy to hear that in a late case not yet reported, they have returned to the good common sense doctrine, so long ago established in Pennsylvania. We predict, when the learned and elaborate argument of one of our judges in the case of *Oliver vs. the Newbury Port Insurance Company*, shall be made publick, there will be no longer a question on the subject.

We could say much in praise of Mr. Dallas for the great labour and attention bestowed upon his former volumes, to which we are indebted for all the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, until Mr. Cranch assumed that task; but it is the 4th only which has arrested our particular attention.

*Ubi plura nitent, non ego paucis Offendar maculis.* And yet it may be useful to suggest those points, in which we think Mr. Dallas has failed of making his book as perfect, as he might easily have done.

First however, we will speak of its merits. The three great points to be attended to by a reporter are, a perspicuous statement of his cases, a condensed view of the arguments of counsel, and an accurate exhibition of the reasons, upon which the judgment or decree is founded.

We think Mr. D. has been happy in each of these particulars. He has generally given a lucid state of the facts, which call for the application of the law. Probably this



however was not difficult, as in most cases a statement is drawn up by the counsel, who argue the cause, and they are careful to exclude every thing, which has no bearing upon the question submitted. With respect to the arguments of counsel he must have found some difficulty. His eminence at the bar was such, as to place him in the situation of an advocate in almost every case he has reported. He was necessarily therefore the hero of his own tale. *Quorum pars magna fui*, he could as truly say, as could the hero of the *Eneid*, when relating the troubles of Troy. He had therefore to resist the natural impulse to swell his own arguments, and contract those of his antagonists. He has however done as fairly, as any man could in like circumstances, and we see but few instances of partiality to himself. He has generally condensed the arguments of counsel into the form of propositions, and thus gives the substance in as small a compass as possible.

To attempt to report the eloquence of an advocate, would be fruitless ; so much of it depends upon the manner, the voice, the gesture, the nice adaptation of words, that no reporter can catch enough of the figure to convey any likeness to his readers. It is enough that we have the substantial reasons of the advocate, stripped of the ornament which might obscure but would seldom illustrate them.

But there are faults in this book, which a reviewer ought not to pass without notice. If there be any advantage in giving to the public opinions of such literary works, as are from time to time ushered into notice, it must principally lie in exposing the errors of the authors, that those, who succeed them in like labours, may produce their works in

a more finished state to the public eye.

A general view of this 4th vol. of Mr. Dallas cannot but excite a suspicion, that, being about to withdraw from his labours, as an author, labours, which we are glad to understand have been handsomely remunerated, he was solicitous to make the most of the materials on hand, in order that a volume of decent size might terminate his career and round off his profits.

This suspicion arises from several considerations, of which the following are the most important : 1st. He has pressed into his service, cases, which were discussed in several distinct and independent courts, which we think very injudicious. The reader will find in this book, cases, decided by the Supreme Court of U. S. by the Circuit Courts of the same, by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, the court of Errors and Appeals, and even a case in the Mayor's Court of the city of Philadelphia. 2d. There are no less than five cases reported, in which the same facts are presented for decision, and the decision is the same in all, viz. that to give the Federal courts jurisdiction, it must appear on the record, that the parties are citizens of different states. Surely it would have been sufficient to have given us one of these cases, and to have referred, in the margin, to others, especially as the decisions were governed by the case of *Bingham and others vs. Cabot*, which is ably reported in the third volume of this work, and which was decided by the highest judiciary tribunal in the United States.

In one of these cases, viz. *Mossman, executor, vs. Hoffman*, we discover a singular mistake : a writ of error is brought to reverse the proceedings in a bill in equity, because



it did not appear in the record of those proceedings, that the plaintiff or defendant was an alien, or that they were citizens of different states. The court are made to say, that the proceedings in equity are void for this defect, and yet to order that the writ of error be quashed. There are many cases reported also, which did not deserve to make part of this book. We refer principally to that class of cases, which are tried by the jury, and where the law is stated from the bench, but without any appearance of research or deliberation. Law opinions, thus delivered, can never become authorities, and therefore ought not to be reported.

We think, therefore, there is some reason to complain of Mr. Dallas for the matter he has furnished us with. We think he has been sparing of labour also in another particular : he has given us no marginal epitome of the cases. These books are not often resorted to for amusement ; but are looked into by lawyers to elucidate a pending case, or to show that a point in controversy has been already decided. It is unreasonable to require of a lawyer, in the hurry of his business, to labour through the whole of a long case to ascertain, whether a single principle has been determined by it or not. Let any one look at the judicious condensations of cases, given by Mr. Tyng in his late report of cases, adjudged in this commonwealth, and he will be satisfied of the utility of this practice. It is true, Mr. Dallas has supplied a minute and intelligible index at the end of his books, but we cannot think this will, by any means, com-

pensate the want of that marginal epitome, which the best reporters in England, and the reporters of New-York and Massachusetts have executed with so much care and judgment.

With respect to the legality of the decisions, which Mr. Dallas has given us, we say nothing, from an apprehension that it is not within the province of a reviewer to call them in question. Decisions of the ultimate law tribunals of any independent state ought to be acquiesced in by every body. The legislature may alter the law, but the subject is bound to respect it. We cannot but think it extremely mischievous, that irresponsible individuals should be permitted to disturb the tranquillity, which generally ensues upon an ultimate decision of the court, by impeaching that decision. Let the counsel in the cause take care that an improper decision is corrected, as long as any lawful tribunal remains unappealed to : let legislators see that their power is properly exercised, if the law is found, in any instance, to operate against the substantial principles of justice : but let individuals bow with submission to the constituted authorities, instead of exciting a belief, that those authorities are either imbecile or corrupt.

Upon the whole, Mr. Dallas deserves much of the profession and of the publick. He has pointed out the course to others, and they will profit of his example. He will excuse us for hinting at his defects, for a man of his talents and knowledge, can never have the vanity to believe he is infallible.



## ART. 10.

*An elementary Treatise on Pleading in Civil Actions : by Edward Lawes, of the Inner Temple. First American from the first London edition. Portsmouth, (N. H.) published by Thomas & Tappan, from the press of S. Sewall. 1808. 8vo. pp. 246.*

THIS is the production of an eminent pleader, who now does honour to the English bar. Every well meant endeavour to improve this branch of juridical science deserves praise. And when that attempt is successfully made, as in the present case, the author is worthy of double honour. If a work of this kind should be found useful in England, it will be much more so in this country, where the science of pleading has been but little cultivated. We are told by Littleton, that good pleading is one of the most honourable, profitable, and laudable things in the law. We have no doubt the author of the book before us, has found it profitable, and he may, perhaps, safely calculate that it will lead to honour. Without a competent knowledge of this branch of the law, no one, in England, can hope to attain any degree of eminence in the profession, and with it, he may hope to rise to a seat on the bench. Most of the present English judges were eminent special pleaders. Though a seat on the bench is not, with us, so much a *reward* of merit, as a *burthen* imposed on those, who have the misfortune to be distinguished at the bar, yet, to them, this branch of knowledge is honourable and laudable, and, to the state, who reap the benefits of their learned labours, it is in the highest degree *profitable*.

The author modestly considers

this essay as designed for the use of pupils, on their entrance upon the study of pleading, and as an introduction to a work on the same subject, which he has formed and partly executed, on a comprehensive plan, intended for the use of the profession at large. We are pleased to find it thus early republished here, and have no doubt that it will be found highly useful to all branches of the profession. It is certainly superior to any thing on the subject of which the profession were before in possession. The Title Pleader, in Comyns Digest, was the best thing of its kind at the time of its publication. The Treatise on Pleas and Pleading, in Bacon's Abridgement, though perhaps the best part of the book, with a single exception, wants method and arrangement, and is otherwise defective. Besides, both these Treatises are become antiquated. From Wooddison's Lectures every student has derived advantage ; but that part, which treats on pleading, though very good, is too short even for an outline.

In the present treatise, the arrangement is happy, and the statements perspicuous. Though elementary, it will be found comprehensive and instructive. It exhibits, in the smallest possible compass, a systematick view of the present law of pleading in civil actions, and till the larger work appears, the student will do well to employ himself in filling up the outline here sketched. With attention and diligence on his side, he can hardly fail of deriving much profit from his labours. In the first chapter, the author, or, as he modestly stiles himself, the compiler, treats of pleading in general, and its history. He has availed himself of the labours of Hale, Blackstone, Reeves, &c. and has thrown together, in a few pages, a



number of facts and observations, which furnish an entertaining and useful historical view of the doctrine of pleading.

It is impossible to read this account without perceiving the advantage to suitors and to the administration of justice, from pleadings which combine brevity, perspicuity, and certainty. The end proposed by the pleadings is, to bring the matters in controversy to a point, material in itself, and unambiguous, so that neither the court nor the jury may be perplexed with the consideration of a multiplicity of matters at the same time, or in other words, to extract, like an equation in algebra, the real points in controversy, and to refer them, with all possible simplicity, to the court or jury. Hence the propriety of the rules, which require that the allegations of the parties, on the record, should be direct, concise, clear, sensible, exact, certain, and formal. Those who may be disposed to think that pleading favours too much of nicety and technical exactness, ought to recollect, that we have the evidence of those who have the best means of knowing, that good pleading greatly contributes to the advancement of justice, and the speedy decision of right, and that ambiguous, informal, and irregular pleadings tend to delay, expense, injustice, and to the great increase of litigation.

It is possible, indeed, that the rules of pleading may, in some cases, be too scrupulously used, and that judges may give a quicker ear to nice exceptions, than they ought. But it is apprehended, that there is, at present, more reason to guard against the contrary extreme. If Lord Coke could say, in his time, "that many a good cause is daily lost for want of good and orderly pleading;" the complaint is still better founded at

this day, and in this country: and we may with confidence assert, that more causes have been lost, and money misspent, for want of good *pleading*, than from the want of good *speaking* at the bar. Pleading, like every thing else, may be abused, and we have no doubt has been, at times, to the purposes of chicane. But the loose way of conducting the pleadings in our courts, *in times past*, has been the occasion of much uncertainty and perplexity, both with the jury and on the bench.

In this chapter, we observe, the author pays a deserved compliment to Saunders, and to serjeant Williams's excellent edition of that able work. This book we recommend, without any hesitation, to the profession; with the notes, it is one of the most useful books in a lawyer's library. We cannot forbear likewise to recommend to the profession Tidd's Practice, as a work of considerable legal learning and great accuracy. Without a competent knowledge of English practice, many of the books of reports, are either unintelligible, or lead to error in the application. A work of this kind, executed with equal skill and accuracy, concerning our practice, would be highly useful. We believe that practice will never attain to any good degree of correctness, utility, and certainty, till its rules are reduced to writing, and the decisions of our courts, on this subject, preserved and published.

In the second chapter, the author treats, in a general way, of the several divisions of pleading. In the third, he proceeds to lay down the rules applicable to all those several divisions. In the succeeding chapters, he lays down some of the most obvious rules, peculiar to each division. His manner of doing it: first, considering the narrative part, and then the formal is just, and contri-



butes, not a little, to the clear understanding and retaining in the memory the rules of pleading. His stile is neat and simple. He seldom states an opinion of his own, but refers to the cases, and generally uses the very words of the court in giving judgment.

In the last chapter, the author treats of a few miscellaneous heads of pleading, which did not fall within any of the former divisions.

The first chapter of the appendix is the most curious and entertaining, if not the most useful part of the work before us. It gives specimens of the different stile of pleading, at three different periods of the law, viz. the reign of Edward the third, Charles the second, and the present time. The appendix to the other chapters, with the notes, will be found useful to the diligent student, as furnishing examples for taking precedents, as well as explanations of the several forms alluded to in the body of the work. Indeed nothing has a greater tendency, clearly and firmly, to impress the different parts and rules of pleading on the memory, than analysing and annotating on precedents. Perhaps the best way of teaching the rules of pleading, would be to write notes on precedents.

Notwithstanding the table of the chapters and the regular distribution of the subject, furnish the means of finding what we wish, without much labour, yet we think the work would be improved by an index. Authors are sometimes induced, by a sort of pride, to decline this labour, as one that has less of honour than profit. But the example of Judge Blackstone deserves imitation, who has not only written the best book, but has given us the most perfect index to its valuable contents. Though the author does not hold

forth his book as a complete work, but as merely designed to give a clear, general and elementary view of the subject, and nothing further; yet that may be truly said of it, which cannot be said of most modern productions, that it contains much valuable matter, in a small compass.

We sincerely hope, the professional engagements of this respectable lawyer, will not long delay the publication of the larger work he has announced, and in the mean time, that this essay may stimulate the researches of some lover of the science, among ourselves, to point out the additions to, and variations from the English forms and principles, which our statutes and approved usages have made necessary and sanctioned.

A correct treatise on the pleadings in real actions, as used in this state, (a subject, almost totally neglected in this work,) would be a great desideratum. The modern books in a lawyer's office, furnish little light, and it requires an ardour and courage, which few possess, to draw this species of knowledge from the ancient fountains.

It gives us real pleasure, as Americans, to observe the neatness, and, as far as we can judge, from the attention we have been able to bestow upon it, the accuracy of this American edition. Both the paper and the typographical execution, (unless perhaps in the appendix) are not inferior to the London edition, while the price, an article of some consequence to the purchaser, is considerably lower; we cannot speak with equal praise of the binding we have seen.

It is true, we have noticed some errors of the press, in the present edition, some of which are also to be found in the London copy. They are not very numerous nor of much



consequence in other respects. This edition might easily have been made more correct than the London, particularly the error in the text, in p. 109, which the author corrects in a note, in p. 220, might have been avoided.

We have also observed, in both editions, that in enumerating the contents of the last chapter of the appendix, the fourth article is called the fifth, &c.; the pointing also in some places, renders the sense obscure. Upon the whole, however, we not only wish the profession here, may derive all the benefit from this excellent work, which it is so well calculated to give, but that the publishers may meet with that encouragement, by a ready sale, which their care and attention have abundantly deserved. We think the profession will be thankful to them, not for printing a book, but for printing a good book, in a handsome stile and manner.

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ART. 11.

*Military and Political Hints, by Col. Ir. Amelot de la Croix. Humbly submitted to the Honourable the Members of Congress and the General Officers of the Militia of the United States: digested and translated by Samuel Mackay, A. M. late Professor of the French Language in Williams College. To which is added, The Artillerist: translated by the same.* Boston, Etheridge & Bliss, No. 12, Cornhill. Greenough & Stebbins, printers. 1808.

IT is not our intention to enter into a detailed criticism of this work. Military science, from causes which are obvious to every man, is not in a very flourishing state in our country, nor do we feel ashamed to ac-

knowledge, that we are not competent to decide upon the merits of any *profound* works on this subject. We shall not even undertake to say, that this treatise is *not* of that character, though we must confess it appears to us, so far as it respects its scientific parts, loose and immethodical; that it seems to imply what we do not admit, that there exists in our country not only a profound ignorance of the very first principles of the military art, but that we are also destitute of *standard works* on this subject. If unhappily we should be driven by the violence of either of the great contending powers of Europe, to rouse the dormant energies of our country, we hope our military chiefs will be able to procure some more regular, systematick, and scientific works than the treatise before us.

But this little tract gives rise to other and more serious reflections: It excites no little share of national pride; the *humility* of the author is observable only in his dedication. The work is written in a stile of contempt for the measures of our constituted authorities, which proves, as the authour says, "that he feels that he is in a land of liberty."

What, may we ask, would Bonaparte, what, indeed, would the free government of Great Britain say, to a foreigner, who had sought a temporary asylum in their countries, who should say, "I cannot observe unconcerned, *your half way measures?*"

Such remarks may become a native citizen, but, in our opinion, come with a very ill grace from a foreigner.

Indeed we shall never deserve the name or character of a nation, so long as we permit foreigners openly to interfere in our publick affairs.

Will it be said, that the press is



free ? that every man has a right to express his opinions through that channel ?

No term has been more abused than this freedom of the press. For *whom* is our press free ? For our own citizens. Who have the right of election ? Our own citizens. And why do we thus limit this freedom ? Because the citizens of any country, and they *alone* are interested in its measures.

Are our rulers accountable to foreigners for their conduct ? Can *they* expose our weakness ? Can *they* arraign the wisdom, or prudence, or policy of our measures ?

We do not find fault with the views of Col. La Croix ; they may be honourable to our country as well as himself. Many of his sentiments we commend, but we must enter our protest against the interference of *foreign* officers even with the best intentions in our internal affairs.

There are some parts of this publication, which merit serious consideration, inasmuch as they come from a French officer, who expresses a high respect for the talents, and pays an extravagant compliment to the emperor of France.

He puts a language into the mouth of that monarch towards the United States, which, as he does not censure, we must presume, he thinks reasonable.

"For *sixteen* years, should Napoleon tell you, you enjoyed the trade of *my colonies*."

By the by sixteen years since they were the colonies of our murdered ally, Louis XVI. they have not been *Bonaparte's* colonies more than three years.

"France favoured you, and in return for her good offices, as a proof of that *gratitude* to which she is entitled for aiding you in your Independence, you have foment-

ed the revolt of the blacks in St. Domingo. You were the indirect means of the massacre of her West India Planters."

We have had charges enough against us, but this is the *first* time we ever heard this massacre laid to our account. Several excellent citizens of Boston were at Cape Francois when that disastrous event took place, and were active in defending the white inhabitants, but we never learned, that the massacre was *imputed* to us till now.

"There can exist *no doubt*, that your *avaricious merchants* have at noon day loaded vessels, armed with implements of war, and that your custom houses sanctioned the *foul deed*. The loss which the empire and its unfortunate subjects have sustained, amounts to 500,000,000 livres. I claim this sum."

Now as the emperor has said *no such thing*, has made *no such demand*, as he continues his minister at our court, this must be Col. La Croix' own anticipation.

It is therefore either the Col's opinion that such *ought* to be, and could *justly* be the claim of Bonaparte, or else he ought to have added his opinion, that such a claim would be unfounded.

But we would ask, why does he believe that the emperor of the French would trump up so unjust a claim ? Does he not know that we have *obediently* made it a crime to trade with *Hayti* ? Is not the Col. a lover of freedom ? And can he deny, that the blacks are as much entitled after fifteen years freedom and Independence, to our aid, as *we* were to the *secret aid* of France in 1776.

Col. La Croix thinks further, that the abuse in our papers against his Majesty the emperor will probably excite him to invade our territory. But his Majesty has said no such



thing. He knows the *freedom of our press* as well as Col. La Croix says *he knows* our military weakness.

The only remaining idea of the Colonel, which we shall notice, is his contemptuous opinion of our *militia*.

'If bravery,' says he, 'a burning love of country, and readiness to enter the public service were, as many believe they are, sufficient to form soldiers, no nation could boast a more invincible band than the militia of the United States. But God forbid, that I should stoop to the base flattery of acknowledging the correctness of this opinion. Things are strangely altered since 1783. Your ancient prejudices ought to be discarded. A war now would not resemble that which secured your Independence; you perhaps will say, we can oppose numbers. This is true, but you have more places to defend, and more property to protect than your population, however numerous, can provide for. Do not compare a modern European army to one of the old school, at the time of your revolution. Both officers and men are inured to privations, fatigues and dangers of all kinds. A change of food and climate affects them not. They have waded through the blood of all their enemies, which they

*always spill* profusely. To them no mode of attack, no mode of defence remains unknown; no, not even to privates. Their Generals have taught them to *chain victory* to their triumphal cars, and are filled with military pride, the result of uninterrupted success.' 'The science of war is much changed since your revolution. Your former method would *deceive your sanguine expectations*: in a word, it is *good for nothing*. Forgive my frankness but you *could not long resist in an open field*.'

The enemy he describes above as conquerors *chaining victory* to their cars, *must be* the French. This gentleman is a French officer who knows them well, who not only has fought, but led those gallant and invincible troops whom he describes. Who can better judge of their projects and their power? He has also seen the *nakedness of our land*.

Although we disapprove of the interference of foreigners in our military and political affairs, yet we should not despise the old and excellent adage

'Fas est et ab hoste doceri.'

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## RETROSPECTIVE NOTICE OF AMERICAN LITERATURE.

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WE are happy to introduce our proposed Retrospect of Works in American Literature, with the following account of a rare and valuable discourse, communicated by a gentleman thoroughly versed in the ecclesiastical and literary history of New-England. We solicit future aid from the same pen, and we repeat our invitation to those, who have made the history of this country a favourite subject of inquiry, to furnish us with minute reviews of valuable works, to inform us of curious tracts relating to this country, which have come to their knowledge, and to give us any hints which they may consider important, contributing to the illustration of American Literature.

### ART. 1.

*An Historical Discourse on the civil and religious affairs of the colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, in New-England, in America, from the first settlement, 1638, to the end of the first century. By John Callender, A. M. Bos-*

ton, printed by S. Kneeland and S. Green. 1739. pp. 120. 8vo.

PREACHERS of *century sermons* have an opportunity of rendering a particular service to the community, as well as the people of their charge. It is their business to bring to re-



membrance the worthies, who subdued the wilderness, and diffused the lights of the gospel upon the gloomy paths of the forest ; and also to collect certain historick documents, which lie mouldering upon dusty shelves, and which but for their labors, would soon be buried in oblivion. In some places the officers of church and state are shamefully deficient in preserving their records ; but wherever ministers have been careful to note in their *church books* those things, which more immediately concern their situation ; or where any individual has recorded for his own satisfaction the occurrences of the day ; we derive from such sources very accurate information of publick affairs. Such manuscripts are valuable beyond what is commonly imagined. We have reason to lament that any of them have been lost !

This discourse of Mr. Callender is one of the most judicious and impartial publications concerning the settlement of New-England. It was preached a century after Mr. Coddington, and others, left Boston for Rhode-Island to form a religious establishment upon a more liberal basis than was then allowed in Massachusetts, or by any authority in christian commonwealths. Though it is strictly a century sermon, it is more properly styled an historical discourse of the civil and religious affairs of the colony of Rhode-Island.

It contains a great deal of matter, which we do not find in our early histories, and some facts, which were never represented fairly by the fathers of Massachusetts, on account of the prejudices, which they mingled with their narrative of the separation.

\* The minds of the best men have been warped by prejudice, especially when they have been engaged in re-

ligious controversy ; and the controversy, which, in the year 1637, agitated the people of Massachusetts, was of the most serious kind ; but though attended with unhappy effects at the time, it became afterwards a publick blessing by the settlement of a flourishing colony. During the administration of Sir H. Vane such contentions sprung up in the church of Boston, as dissolved the dearest ties of amity. Friends, who had crossed the wide ocean to enjoy the society of each other, were glad of an opportunity to separate. They could not live in the same plantation. Their minds brooded over the causes of their dissention, till they engendered that mutual ill will, which grew to a kind of pious hatred, the spawn of sectarian animosity and religious bigotry.

Mr. Coddington is justly called the father of Rhode-Island. He engaged warmly in the Antinomian controversy, and even defended Mrs. Hutchinson at her trial, in opposition to Governour Winthrop, Dudley, and the ministers who were present, whose object seemed to be to puzzle, confute, or censure, rather than to instruct this fanatical woman. Mr. Callender dedicates his discourse to the grandson of Mr. Coddington, a magistrate of Rhode Island, in 1738, and gives an interesting account of his ancestor. " Your honoured grandfather was chosen in England to be an Assistant of the colony of Massachusetts Bay, A. D. 1629, and in 1630 came over to England with the governour and the charter, &c. ; after which, he was several times rechosen to that honourable and important office. He was for some time Treasurer of the colony. He was with the chiefest in all publick charges, and a principal merchant in Boston, where he built the first *brick house*.



In the year 1637, when the contentions ran so high in the country, he was grieved at the proceedings of the Court against Mr. Wheelwright and others. And when he found that his opposition to these measures was ineffectual, he entered his protest, that his dissent might appear to succeeding times; and though he was in the fairest way to be great in Massachusetts, as to outward things, yet he voluntarily quit-  
ted his advantageous situation in Boston, his large property and improvements at Braintree, for peace sake, and that he might befriend, protect, and assist those pious people, who were meditating a removal from that colony on account of their religious differences. Here when the people first incorporated themselves a body politick on this Island, they chose him to be their judge, or chief ruler, and continued to elect him annually to be their governour for seven years together, till the patent took place, and the Island was incorporated with *Providence plantations*.

In the year 1641 he assisted in forming the body of laws, which has been the basis of our constitution and government ever since; and the next year being chosen governour of the colony, declined the office.

In 1651 he had a commission from the supreme authority, then in England, to be governour of the Island, pursuant to a power reserved in the *patent*; but the people being jealous "the commission might affect their lands and liberties, as seemed to them by the patent, he readily laid it down on the first notice from England, that he might do so; and for their further satisfaction and contentment, he, by a writing under his hand, obliged himself to make a formal surrender of all right and title to any of the lands, more than

his proportion in common with the other inhabitants, whenever it should be demanded. After that he seems to have retired from publick business, till toward the latter end of his days, when he was prevailed with to take the government upon him; as he did particularly 1678, when he died November 1st, in the 78th year of his age, a good man full of days."

This is a just praise to the founder of their colony, and we are ready to allow that religious disputes gave rise to the settlement; yet in all these things there is a certain political aspect. Mr. Coddington was not banished from Massachusetts with Mrs. Hutchinson's adherents, but the influence of Vane's party was lost. He might have lived respected and secure in his property, but if he joined those of the new plantation, among them he could be chief.

Mr. Dummer, an honourable man of the same party, went to Newbury, and passed his days in retirement; nor were any of them afterwards called to important offices in the state, though they were men of very considerable note in the town of Boston, and principal members of the church. Mr. Wheelwright neither went to Rhode-Island, nor remained in Massachusetts. His ambition prompted him to lay the foundation of another settlement. He had been one of the ministers of Boston, for which he was dismissed with several others. They planted themselves at Exeter, which afterwards became part of New Hampshire.

The first part of this discourse which may be extended to page 35th, contains a history of the *settlement* of the colony. Several things make it truly valuable. We have here an account of the Cam-



bridge Synod, where the principles of the antinomians were condemned. Dr. Mather, in the *Magnalia*, reduces to five propositions, or questions, the erroneous opinions which were presented to the synod, and which amounted to eighty, when they became the subject of debate. Mr. John Clarke, a leader of those who were condemned, printed a narrative of the dispute, where he reduces their differences to one point of doctrine. The aggrieved party held to a *covenant of grace*, and the fathers of Massachusetts to a *covenant of works*. The real state of the question was, whether sanctification is *an evidence of regeneration*: and this involved other considerations. In this discourse of Mr. Callender, there are quotations from books on both sides the question.

The candour and good sense of our author appear in a passage which we beg leave to quote.

'Almost all the settlers of New-England were puritans. The people of Plymouth were generally of that sort called separatists, and those of Boston generally had lived in communion with the Church of England, though they scrupled conforming to some of their ceremonies. But these being come to so great a distance from the bishop's power, could well enough agree in the same forms of worship, and method of discipline with the church at Plymouth, and a mixt form of church government was generally set up. Though they had seemed well enough united against ceremonies, yet now they were removed from the ecclesiastical court, with a patent which gave them liberty of conscience, a variety of opinions, as to the several points, before not so much regarded, and perhaps not thought of, now began to be visible, and operate with considerable effects. It is no wonder such differences of opinion rose among them, as had been among the protestants in general. P. 13, 14.

'Notwithstanding their sufferings and complaints in England they seemed incapable of mutual forbearance; perhaps

they were afraid of provoking the higher powers at home, if they countenanced other sects; and perhaps those who differed took the more freedom, in venturing and expressing their particular opinions, from the safety and protection they expected, under a charter that granted them liberty of conscience.' P. 15.

These specimens not only show candour of representation, but explain the real principles of our fathers. They were puritans, but not violent haters of episcopacy. The Plymouth settlers, though separatists, and more rigid than other puritans, were not Brownists, as they have been represented by Oldmixon, and other European writers, who are followed by Judge Marshall in his preliminary work to the life of Washington. Whoever undertakes to write upon the affairs of Massachusetts ought carefully to consult Prince's Annals. It is the most precious historical document we have, and is uncommonly luminous and instructive in the account of the Plymouth settlers, an account, which makes void this modern assertion. Mr. Callender, though of a different church, speaks of Mr. Prince, "as a man the most versed in the history of the country, above all exceptions universally acknowledged to be so."

From page 36 to 88, Mr. C. gives a short view of the history, and present state of the colony. He gives a particular account of Gorton and his followers, who came to Rhode Island 1638, and was banished the year after from this democratical settlement, where no religious opinions, it was said, could imply sedition! The Gortonists settled *Warwick*, naming the place after the Earl of Warwick, their patron. This town was in the Providence plantations. "In 1643, Roger Williams went to England, and obtained by the assis-



tance of Sir Henry Vane a charter of civil corporation, by the name of the Incorporation of Providence plantations in the Narraganset Bay in New-England."

"In 1663, King Charles granted an ample charter, whereby the province was made a *body corporate and politick*, in fact and name, by the name of the Governour and company of the English colony of Rhode-Island and Providence plantations in New-England, in America."

This charter was retained till the American Revolution, though some attempts were made to alter it, and a writ of *Quo warranto* was even once issued against the colony.

On the subject of their religious affairs, Mr. C. is more particular, than in the civil branch of their history. He was a pious, learned minister of the baptist denomination. To say that he is without those prejudices, which are almost inseparable from the human heart, and which are so apt to discover themselves, in writing as well as acting, would be saying too much. But he never speaks unkindly of any men from personal or party dislike. It was his opinion, that of all the passions which have degraded the human mind, religious bigotry is the most to be dreaded. Being attached by his connections to religious liberty, he is sometimes ardent, but never bitter in its defence. In this he deserves the more credit, as he writes upon a subject which has called forth much severity of censure from both parties; and in this too, he has not been imitated by some of his own denomination. A late author, in his history of the baptists, has made a most rude attack upon men, as well as principles; upon those of his own denomination, as well as congregationalists, if they differed from him upon the high

points of predestination and "the light within." When it was first published, it was stiled by a witty observer in one of the papers, "a slaughter house for private characters."

A writer who is to give a narrative of religious disputes, ought not to be a partizan; but if his life had been engaged in controversy, this can hardly be avoided. Hence it has been said that historians should not be of any religion nor *politicks*. But this is not without its difficulties. Those historians, who are without religion, show their prejudices against it, as we see in the pages of certain fine writers, who, though among the most modern, are not the most impartial. Those, who have no opinion of their own in *politicks*, make their matter heavy and dull. Historians should resemble Reviewers in this. We are supposed to have our opinions, and to express them; but we are supposed also not biassed by them to do injustice, or to give tribute where it is not due.

Upon the whole, Mr. Callender's discourse is excellent and useful. It is not a mere skeleton account of things; but exhibits men and facts as they were. The stile is sententious and grave, well adapted to a religious discourse, but not unfit for a narrative of civil transactions. He does not call our minds from interesting parts of his narrative to unnecessary reflections of his own. Events and circumstances are selected with judgment and displayed with the utmost perspicuity and order; we feel engaged as we follow the thread of his narration, and have no reason to complain of minute attentions, multiplicity of circumstances, or vain repetitions.

It is such a work as we wish to see republished; and as we understand that the Historical Society of



Massachusetts propose to oblige the publick by some curious and rare works, we hope it will not be too great a trespass upon their FUNDS

to reprint this discourse of Mr. John Callender, and also Smith's History of Virginia.

## CATALOGUE.

### OF NEW PUBLICATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES, FOR MARCH, 1808.

*Sunt bona, sunt quædam medicoria, sunt mala plura.....*MART.

#### NEW WORKS.

Military and Political Hints by col. Ir. Amelot de La Croix, humbly submitted to the hon. the members of Congress, and the general officers of the militia of the United States. Digested and translated by Samuel Mackay, late Professor of the French language in William's college. 12mo. 75 cts. in boards. Boston, Etheridge & Bliss. Greenough & Stebbins, printers.

A Treatise on the Discipline of the cavalry, teaching the necessary evolutions on a parade, on a march, and in the face of an enemy; to which is added, the new sword exercise, for cavalry; illustrated with copperplate engravings; the whole examined and approved by a valuable and intelligent officer of the cavalry, during the revolutionary war. Petersburg, Va. Somerwell & Conrad.

A Letter from the hon. Timothy Pickering, a senator of the U. States from the state of Massachusetts, exhibiting to his constituents, a view of the imminent danger of an unnecessary and ruinous war, addressed to His Excellency James Sullivan, governor of the said state. 8vo. pp. 16. 12½ cts. Boston. Greenough & Stebbins, printers.

An Oration on the Abolition of the Slave Trade, delivered in the African church, in the city of New York, January 1, 1808. By Peter Williams, jun. a descendant of Africa.

Propagation of Truth, or Tyranny Anatomized. 8vo. T. Fleet, Boston.

Sketches of Man as he is, connected with present and past modes of education. T. Fleet, Boston.

A Sermon, preached at Lee, December 20th, 1807, being the next Lord's

day after the interment of Mr. Jonathan Thacher, who died December 14, 1807, aged 27 years, and of Mrs. Mary Ingersoll, who died the day following, aged 44 years. By Alvan Hyde, A. M. pastor of the church in Lee.

Memoirs of Edward Tyng, Esq. of Boston; and of hon. William Tyng, Esq. of Goshen. By the Rev. Timothy Alden, jun. 8vo. pp. 8. Boston, Munroe, Francis, & Parker. 1808.

A Discourse on the present state of education in Maryland, delivered before the hon. the General Assembly, on Thursday, December 31, 1807. By Samuel Knox, A. M. Principal of Baltimore college. price 25 cents.

No. 2, of vol. 1, of the American Artillerist's Companion, or Elements of Artillery. By Louis Toussard. Philadelphia, C. & A. Conrad & Co.

Six Essays on the subject of laying a tax on dogs, addressed to the legislature of Pennsylvania. By Joseph H. Fleming. Philadelphia, price 12½ cents.

A narrative of the extraordinary case of Stockton *versus* Hopkins; with an appendix, containing the principal evidence on both sides, copies of the affidavits, &c. &c. Philadelphia, Matthew Carey.

The question of War with Great Britain, examined upon Moral and Christian Principles; A Sermon. Boston, Snelling & Simons, printers. 8vo. pp. 14. price 12½ cents.

No. 1, of the Substitute; containing The Peacock at Home, being a sequel to The Butterfly's Ball. By a Lady. To which is added, The Butterfly's Ball. New York, D. Longworth. price 25 cents.



The new Militia Law of Maryland, with a complete Index, referring to each section, officer's pay, rations, &c. Calender & Willis, Baltimore, price 25 cents.

An Oration, delivered before the Medical Society of South Carolina, at their anniversary meeting, December 24, 1807, and published at their request. By Joseph Johnson, M. D. President of the Medical Society of South Carolina.

Nos. 7 and 8, being the concluding numbers of the Charms of Literature. New York.

Out of Place; or, The Lake of Lausanne; a musical farce, in two acts, never before published; also, Love and Friendship; or Yankee Notions. A farce in 2 acts. By A. B. Lindsley. New York.

Twenty two Sermons on the prophecies, to be accomplished from the present time, until the new heavens and earth are created, when the New Jerusalem will come down from Heaven. By Elias Smith.

#### NEW EDITIONS.

A Treatise on Gardening. By a native of Virginia. Petersburg, Virg. Somerwell & Conrad, and John Dickson.

An alarm to unconverted Sinners, in a serious treatise, shewing what conversion is not, and correcting some mistakes about it; whereunto is added, Diverse Practical Cases of Conscience, judiciously resolved. By Joseph Alleine, late minister of the gospel at Taunton, in Somersetshire, England. price 92 cents. W. Tuttle & Co. Newark, N. J.

Letters from England. By Don Manuel Alvarez Espriella, translated from the Spanish. Second American edition, 2 vols. Price 1 doll. 75. New York. D. Longworth.

Devotional Exercises, for the use of young persons, containing Reflections and a prayer for each morning and evening in the week. By Charles Wellbeloved. First American, from the third English edition, pp. 25 cents. Boston, Andrews & Cummings.

An Elementary Treatise on Pleading in Civil Actions. By Edward Lawes, of the Inner Temple. First American, from the first London edition. Portsmouth, N. H. published by Thomas & Tappan. From the press of S. Sewall. 8vo. pp. 246.

Dr. Reece's Domestick Medical Guide, for the use of families and young practitioners, or students in medicine and surgery; being a complete practical system of modern domestick medicine. Philadelphia, Hopkins & Earle.

An Epitome of Chemistry, in three parts. By William Henry. The fourth edition much enlarged, and illustrated with plates. Price 3 dollars. New York, Collins & Perkins.

The Book of Common Prayer, and administration of the Sacrament, and rites and ceremonies of the church, according to the use of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the United States of America; together with the psalter or psalms of David. Price 1 dollar. Baltimore, Warner & Hanna.

#### WORKS IN THE PRESS.

Thomas B. Wait & Co. of Portland, have in the press, and will speedily publish, Commentaries on the Laws of England, in four books. By Sir William Blackstone, Knt. one of the justices of his Majesty's Court of Common Pleas. From the last London edition, with the last corrections of the author; and with notes and additions, by Edward Christian, Esq. Chief Justice of the Isle of Ely, and the Downing Professor of the laws of England in the University of Cambridge. The work will be printed in 4 large octavo volumes. An elegant likeness of Judge Blackstone will be given as a frontispiece to the first volume, and the second will contain Tables of Consanguinity and descents, handsomely engraved. Christian's notes will be incorporated in the body of the work; which has been done in the latest London, but never in any American edition. Subscriptions received at the bookstore of Etheridge & Bliss, Boston. Price to subscribers, 3 dollars per volume, in boards, to be paid for as the several volumes shall be printed and delivered.

Belcher & Armstrong, of this town, have in the press, The Histories of Greece, Rome, and South and North America; designed for the use of schools. By the Rev. Mr. Cooper. To be comprised in one volume, 12mo.

Corinna, or Italy. By Madam de Stael Holstein, authoress of Delphine, and other works of merit. Philadelphia, Hopkins & Earle.



Walker's Key to the Classical Pronunciation of Hebrew, Greek, Latin, and Scripture proper names. Philadelphia, Hopkins & Earle.

#### WORKS ANNOUNCED.

Ebenezer P. Cady, New London, Con. proposes republishing by subscription, *Some thoughts concerning the present revival of Religion in New England, and the way in which it ought to be acknowledged and promoted*; in 5 parts. By Jona. Edwards, A. M. pastor of a church

in Northampton. Published at Boston, A. D. 1712. The edition to be printed in one 8vo. volume, containing about 300 pages. Price 1 dollar, bound.

Thomas B. Wait & Co. propose printing, by subscription, *Practical observations on the management of Ruptures*. In two parts. By William Hall Timbrel, Esq. From the third London edition; illustrated with three engravings. To be handsomely printed in 1 vol. 12mo. containing about 100 pages. Price to subscribers, 1 dollar bound, 80 cents in boards.

### INTELLIGENCE.

LITERARY AND MISCELLANEOUS.

WE have now the satisfaction to announce, that the publick will shortly be gratified by the publication of all that was finished of Mr. Fox's Work, the manuscript of which has just been disposed of at an unprecedented price. It appears to have been Mr. Fox's design to unfold the causes which led to the revolution, and the final overthrow of the House of Stuart, by a detailed history of the reign of James the Second; and to give, in an introduction, such a view of the period immediately preceding as might be necessary to illustrate and to account for many of the events he would have to record. The manuscript that he has left comprises the introduction here spoken of, (which contains much interesting matter relative to the plots, and the general state of parties, in the reign of Charles the Second) and two chapters of the History of James the Second, extending from his accession to the execution of the Duke of Monmouth. These are all in a finished state, and executed in a manner worthy of the talents of their author; and we have now only to lament that this should be the whole of so important an undertaking which the publick engagements of that illustrious statesman allowed him leisure to complete. The work will form one volume in quarto; it will be accompanied by a preface from the pen of Mr. Fox's noble relative, Lord Holland, and an appendix, consisting of a considerable number of

very curious and important state papers connected with the period of the history.

Mr. Bower has made considerable progress in a work which is intended to exhibit a complete delineation of the life of Luther, and of the effects of that life upon the great revolution to which he has given a name. Mr. Bower has explored the original and voluminous documents respecting Luther, with which his own times, and those immediately succeeding, abounded; he has carefully analysed the whole of Luther's writings; and is persuaded that the materials which he has collected furnish much information which has not hitherto been laid before the British publick, respecting the character and progress of this extraordinary man, respecting the gradual formation of his mind during the period of his education, the gradual expansion of his views during his efforts for the reformation of the church; and the character which the peculiarity of his mind stamped upon the reformation itself.

Mr. G. Guttleib, is preparing for the press, an account of his travels in North America, in the years 1806 and 1807. The work will be illustrated with a considerable number of wood cuts.

An edition of Dryden's works, edited by Mr. Walter Scott, has been announced as nearly ready for publication.



The friends of the late Rev. George Walker, F. R. S. President of the Literary Society of Manchester, and the public at large, will learn with pleasure, that his third and fourth volumes of Sermons, together with a new edition of the first and second, will appear in the course of the month. His two volumes of Essays, Philosophical, Literary and Moral, in the course of a few months; to which will be prefixed Memoirs of his Life.

The following interesting intelligence, respecting vaccination among the Hottentots, has been communicated by Mr. Latrobe, to W. Blair, Esq. of Great Russell-street. It is contained in the diary of the Mission at Barianskloof, dated Sept. 17, 1807. "While we were at Cape-Town, to present a congratulatory address to Lord Caledon, our present governor, we were informed of the wish of government, that the Hottentots both at the Cape, and in the country, might be inoculated with the cow-pox, to prevent the ravages made by that malignant disorder, the small-pox. Indeed there was a positive order for the introduction of vaccination among them, understanding how beneficial the effects of it had proved, we were the more ready to undertake it, and went to the town-house, where it was performing under the inspection of a magistrate, by eight surgeons. There was a great crowd, through which we worked our way to the surgeons, from whom we received the necessary instructions, and a bottle with matter was given us to take home to Barianskloof. With a view to begin, we immediately inoculated our Hottentot servant, who willingly submitted to the operation. After our return to Barianskloof, we made known to our congregation the wish of government, that all the Hottentots would suffer themselves to be inoculated, and our people readily consented. The above mentioned servant got several very fine pustules, without sickness or inconvenience, (at least nothing worth mentioning;) and the child of one of the missionaries being also inoculated with the best effect, we thereby obtained good wholesome matter from healthy subjects, preferable to that we brought with us, which was rather dry. First we inoculated one hundred persons who all did well. The most of them had several pustules, but were not pro-

perly ill or feverish to any great degree, and to this day we have performed the operation on about six hundred Hottentots, with the best effects."

### EDITORS' NOTES.

WE have received, we presume from New York, an anonymous letter, animadverting upon our review of Miller's Letters on episcopacy in the Anthology for last November. The communication would occupy eight at least of our most closely printed pages; and this would be a sufficient reason for not giving it place, even if it were ever so proper or practicable for Reviewers to involve themselves in controversy with every man, who is dissatisfied with their decisions. The writer will triumph, no doubt, when we assure him, that nothing will induce us to enter the lists with the collector or the authors of the "Essay on Episcopacy."

The differences of opinion between this correspondent and ourselves, about which much of his letter is employed, we beg leave to state for the information of our readers.

He thinks it of as much importance to ascertain the external order of the primitive church, as to ascertain any of the *doctrines* of christianity. We do not.

He thinks that the assertion of the *jus divinum* of diocesan Episcopacy (which, let it ever be remembered, implies, that all other than Episcopalian ministers are no ministers at all, and have no right to serve in holy things,) is very charitable and very proper, especially in this country, where there is no publick establishment of christianity. We do not.

But as he professes to point out several mistakes in our review, it



may not be useless to attend to them. He accuses us of having represented Dr. Hobart as the aggressor in the present controversy at New York. Certainly we carefully avoided such an assertion; and if this is the impression, which is conveyed by our statement, it results only from the simple detail of facts. For Mr. Hobart's justification, however, we are entirely willing to refer our readers to his "Apology for Apostolick order."

He blames us for terming the non-juring bishop of Scotland who ordained Bishop Seabury, *extra-regular*, and laughs at us for not knowing, "that episcopal consecration alone is necessary to episcopal authority." To be sure, we do not pretend to know so much of the mysterious transmission of spiritual power as the writer, and perhaps were simple enough to suppose that a bishoprick is necessary to a bishop; but, after reading the eleventh lecture of Dr. Campbell, we acknowledge that the term *extra-regular* appeared to us one of the most gentle we could use.

The letter writer thinks it a great proof of our ignorance, that we should refer to two plain pages of Jerome, as an argument against episcopal pretensions, when "there are innumerable passages in this father, that assert the apostolick institution of bishops." Who ever doubted this? And what man acquainted with the controversy does not know, that this very circumstance renders his testimony in the passages, to which we referred so very important, and as the letter writer well knows so unequivocal. A similar remark applies to Eutychius, whom the writer thinks Dr. Miller knows more about than we do. This may be, and yet the testimony of Eutychius be very important. Fortunately, we did "know that he was

a patriarch of the 10th century," and we did know too, that Pearson, notwithstanding this, has taken the utmost pains to invalidate his testimony, and, in the opinion of Gibbon, without success. As to Dodwell's concession, bishops and presbyters are not to be found as distinct orders in the New Testament, which Dr. Miller has asserted, and which the correspondent challenges him to prove, though we are not obliged to furnish Dr. Miller with authorities, yet our accuser may find something very like this concession in the *Parænesis*, especially No. 14.

We readily acknowledge that, when we asserted, that the episcopal controversy had been wisely suffered to sleep in this country, since the time of Drs. Chauncey and Chandler, we did not recollect the dispute occasioned by the sermons of Dr. Stiles. Indeed it was little known out of Connecticut, where it originated. But "if it had been the plan of this letter writer to supply *all* our deficiencies, he *might* have reminded us also of another controversy of nearly the same date between a clergyman of Portsmouth, N H and a congregational minister in his neighbourhood.

Before this gentleman writes another letter, or prints this, we beg leave to remind him, that it is one thing to maintain that the earliest constitution of the christian church was episcopal, and another to assert that this form is essential to the very existence of christian churches, and that those, who are not *episcopally* ordained, are wholly unauthorized to administer the duties and offices of christian teachers. These are two very distinct questions; and it is not by dexterously confounding them, that any controversialist will ultimately gain the confidence or assent of careful and candid readers.